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ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: PALESTINE SETTLEMENT INSURES COOPERATION

LD071001 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Feb 80 p 16 LD

[Muhammad 'Ali Hafiz column: "A Word"]

[Text] This is a frank word addressed to the Americans. All that we hope is that it is not too late, that the time has not passed, because we still hope that the Americans have discovered the facts by themselves.

It is their policy that has brought the Russians to the area and the continuation of such a policy that has allowed them to send advisors here and conclude friendship treaties, such as the treaty on which the Russians recently "honored" their signature.

We realize that when the Americans offer to defend the area they are defending themselves first, and protecting their interests against dangers.

Before answering this question we would like to raise others, in the hope that they will dispel our confusion and awaken the American conscience, which the Russian occupation of Afghanistan has revived.

What is the difference between the Russian aggression in Afghanistan and the Israeli aggression against Arab territories?

How can we the Arabs explain the fact that our national problem has remained unsolved for one-third of a century, despite the fact that the United States holds all the cards for solving this problem?

How can the states of the area justify to their peoples their military and strategic cooperation with the United States without insuring that these peoples are reassured that their problem, which the United States can solve, has ended?

It has become clear that the Russians do not want our problem to end, because it would mean an end to their role and influence, which they are ready to back by force.

Since it has become evident that the United States cannot defend its interests without our cooperation, the equation has become very clear on this side.

The frank word to be addressed to the Americans must now be, according to their own logic, the logic of interest. What we tell the Americans today is: Help us to solve our national problem before you ask us to cooperate with you in defending and protecting the area. Try to implement in Palestine--the word that they have almost forgotten--the same principles on whose basis you opposed the Russian occupation of Afghanistan.

You will then have no need to ask us to cooperate with you, because we will be ready to struggle against a common enemy.

Americans: We are in the same front, but.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT CHAIRS JOINT COMMAND MEETING

NC080748 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 8 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Last night brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, chaired a meeting of the Joint Command. It has been learned that the meeting dealt with current developments, particularly the situation in Lebanon.

BAHRAIN

TUNISIA'S FITOURI ARRIVES WITH LETTER FROM BOURGUIBA

NC071725 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1650 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Manama, 7 February--Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri and his delegation arrived here this evening from the Omani capital, Muscat, on a brief visit to Bahrain in the course of a tour of the Gulf area. Upon arrival Fitouri told the GULF NEWS AGENCY that he has a letter for the amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba related to the recent incidents to which the Tunisian town of Qafsah was exposed. Fitouri added that during his visit he will have talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral relations and current Arab and international developments.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM PARIS

NC071740 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1716 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Manama, 7 February--Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned to Manama from Paris this evening after an official visit of several days to France in response to an invitation by French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet. In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY on his return, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak said he held discussions with the French foreign minister on a number of current international events and their effect on the Gulf region in particular.

The Bahraini foreign minister added that a complete assessment of the Middle East question was made during these discussions, which also dealt with the importance of the current French stand on this issue and on achieving a just and comprehensive settlement in the area. The discussions, he went on, also dealt with bilateral relations.

In conclusion, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak stressed that views were identical on all topics that were discussed.

KUWAIT

OIL MINISTER DENIES REPORT OF OPEC DISPUTE WITH SAUDIS

LD071405 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1211 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah has denied an American press report citing him as reporting the existence of a Kuwaiti-Saudi dispute over the leadership of OPEC. In a statement issued in this connection he said Kuwait considers the report published yesterday by the WALL STREET JOURNAL as an unsuccessful attempt against the special relationship existing between Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Shaykh 'Ali added that the paper reported to the effect that a conflict exists between Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia over the leadership of the 13 OPEC states. He explained that he made no such statement and that he has requested the paper to publish a clarification in this connection and to disclose its sources. The minister also described the report as an intrigue aimed at sowing dissension amongst the OPEC members and as an insult to the 13 states, each of which adopts decisions which accord with the interests of its peoples.

OMAN

TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 7 FEB

LD071857 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD/EA

[Summary] Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri arrived in Muscat today for a short visit to Oman.

GOVERNMENT STUDIES POSSIBILITY OF JOINING OAPEC

LD071812 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD/EA

[Text] His Excellency Salim Muhammad Shaban, under secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals, has said the Sultanate is studying the possibility of joining OAPEC. In a statement carried by today's TIMES OF OMAN, His Excellency Salim Shaban discussed the advantages of joining the organization. He said membership would provide flexibility and Oman would benefit from OAPEC's technical potential and financial resources. Gas production could be boosted and the oilfields would be developed.

The under secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals said the Sultanate has not yet taken any decision but is studying the question.

It is noteworthy that OAPEC does not interfere in its member states' pricing policies or oil production. It is committed to joint Arab action and the development of the petrochemical industry.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAMANI: USSR INVASION OF OILFIELDS WOULD CAUSE WAR

WA071959 London REUTER in English 1545 GMT 7 Feb 80 WA

[Text] Davos, Switzerland, Feb 7, REUTER--A Soviet invasion of the Saudi Arabian oilfields would cause a third world war, Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani said today.

He told a European management symposium at this Swiss mountain resort that Saudi Arabia would be defended by the United States, Western Europe and Japan in the event of a Soviet invasion.

"If the Soviet Union marched into Saudi Arabian oilfields there would be a third world war because they would be met there by the armies of the United States, Europe and Japan," Sheikh Yamani said.

"We do not want to see the superpowers present in our area. We must try to bring back a quiet atmosphere. The heat is coming nearer to the oilfields, and heat is dangerous near oil," the Saudi minister told European executives.

He said he believed the main motive for the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan was long-range energy strategy, adding that the Soviet bloc would probably eventually become a net importer of oil.

"There is room for talking about possible supplies from Saudi Arabia, but nothing can be done until Soviet forces withdraw from Afghanistan," he added.

MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA ASSESSES TALKS BETWEEN HASSAN, KHALID

LD071458 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1350 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta has stressed the importance of the At-Ta'if meeting between His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his brother His Majesty King Hassan II, the king of Morocco in light of circumstances facing the Islamic world.

M'hamed Boucetta expressed his conviction that this meeting will give a strong impetus to the Islamic actions of Muslims in confronting the dangers now threatening the Islamic world, and will help Muslims perform their true role in achieving peace, security, progress and prosperity. In a statement to SNA the Moroccan foreign minister described the Saudi-Moroccan summit as a brotherly meeting and as essential to the exchange of views on matters dictated by events.

YAR

MINISTER SIGNS TRADE PROTOCOL WITH PRC OFFICIAL 7 FEB

JN071331 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] A trade protocol was signed today between the YAR and PRC. The protocol provides for increased trade in foodstuffs and other goods. It was signed by Minister of Supply and Trade Salih al-Jamali for the YAR and by Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Zheng Yishan on behalf of the PRC.

Following the signing, the minister of supply and trade praised the joint cooperation between the YAR and PRC and thanked the joint technical committee for its efforts in reaching those results. He expressed the hope that relations will develop and prosper in achieving the two countries' joint goals.

The head of the PRC delegation thanked the YAR Government and people for their sentiments toward the PRC. He said: The signing of this protocol will strengthen trade between the two countries. It will also bolster and develop friendly relations between the two countries.

The signing ceremony was attended by the under secretary of the Ministry of Supply and Trade and chief of the Foreign Trade Department, the secretary general of the department and the director of the government employees consumer establishment. It was also attended by the members of the PRC delegation and the PRC charge d'affaires in San'a'.

CZECHOSLOVAK DAILY INTERVIEWS OPPOSITION OFFICIAL

AU071506 [Editorial Report AU] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 5 February on page 6 publishes a 2,000-word report on Vladimir Divis' account of his recent trip to Aden, entitled "Transformations of the Southern Part of the Arab Peninsula; Two Paths to Unification." Divis says: "The radio in the hotel announced that it was 0800. Less than 2 minutes later a car came to a sudden halt in front of the hotel. As arranged, I got in quickly. I did not know where we were going. My escort merely told me that I would be able to meet one of the top representatives of the North Yemeni National Democratic Front (NDF), an opposition movement fighting against the reactionary government of the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) in San'a'."

After briefly sketching the NDF's history and character, describing it as a movement rallying "Marxist leftwingers, Ba'th Party members and 'independent nationalists,'" as well as "members of other progressive and democratic organizations and groups," Divis goes on to desciribe his meeting with" (Jahja al-Sami), one of the nine representatives of this broad opposition movement," in a small office in one of the ordinary residential houses in Krater, the people's district" of Aden: "'At the beginning our front rejected all and any violent actions against the San'a' government,' Comrade al-Sami declares. The host hands me the front's appeal of 1976. 'We demanded the consolidation of the country's sovereignty and independence, which was constantly violated by the Saudi Arabian regime. We also demanded that the San'a' government carry out the democratization of political life and the liquidation of feudal backwardness in rural areas, halt military and other provocations against the neighboring PDRY and, in general, approach in a truly constructive manner the fulfillment of obligations assumed in Cairo in 1972, when the representatives of both Yemeni states agreed on unification within the framework of the union. But of all this what has really been carried out?'"

After reviewing the Yemeni people's fight for unity and the campaign against the "progressive government in Aden," including the "open armed intervention in summer 1972, when North Yemeni and Saudi Arabian military units invaded the PDRY,"--and adding that "this aggression was doomed to failure from the very beginning"--Divis notes the "promising" results of the Cairo agreements of 1972, and continues: "But in what manner has San'a' resolved to materialize them? I was able to convince myself of this when passing through one of the areas near the YAR borders.

"We passed through several control points of the PDRY's armed forces without any difficulty. Once we had left the narrow roads shut in by steep mountain slopes behind us, we were stopped by a military patrol. It refused to let us go any further. Instead of lengthy explanations a young senior lieutenant sent me his own binoculars, so that I could see for myself the burnt-out wreck of a truck standing on the plain in the distance. 'We do not have a cross-country vehicle with an anti-aircraft gun here at the moment,' the officer explained. 'Without it I cannot let you proceed any further.'

"Intruders like to visit this area with North Yemeni and Saudi Arabian helicopters. They fire on anything that moves. They come down particularly on columns of cars, on caravans and military posts," Divis states, adding: "Such provocations have only one purpose: to maintain constant tension in relations between the two Yemeni states. The bourgeois rightwing government in San'a' knows perfectly well that the reactionary rightwing forces would be defeated in any elections in a united Yemen. This would mean that a really independent, progressive state would be created. The Saudi Arabian rulers do not like this idea, either, because a united Yemen would have an extremely significant strategic position," Divis reasons.

After noting that "Washington undoubtedly shares the Riyadh reactionary regime's opinions about Yemen's unification," proving this by increasing its military deliveries to San'a', Divis continues: "Former chairman of the PDRY's Presidential Council, Ali Rubay'i (1969-78), strove to bring the Chinese to the southern part of the Arab Peninsula. But at the same time he also started flirting with Saudi Arabia. He had very original reasons for this: 'The sources of aid for the PDRY must be more varied...' On the other hand he sharply opposed cooperation with the socialist states." Calling Rubay'i "primarily an adventurer and gambler," Divis goes on to prove this by describing Rubay'i's attempt to assassinate YAR President al-Ghashmi with the aid of Chinese weapons, in order to eliminate his political adversaries.

"But he miscalculated," Divis says: "The putsch attempt he had inspired was discovered in time. It was possible at that time to prevent the far-reaching war provocation.

"But what the Saudi Arabian strategists had not succeeded in staging in June 1978, they carried out 6 months later. Under a ridiculous pretext, military units directed from San'a' and Riyadh invaded the PDRY. But this aggression, too, ended as ingloriously as the earlier one did 7 years ago. In order not to lose face before the world, the North Yemeni Government in the end again preferred to agree to the PDRY's proposal to solve the war conflict by peaceful means.

"At the negotiations conducted in March 1979 in Kuwait the two sides again substantially agreed about the principles of gradually uniting the two parts of Yemen," Divis states.

He concludes: "It was drawing toward midnight. Comrade al-Sami switched off the light. We went out into the corridor, where men clothed in the typical garb of North Yemeni mountain dwellers lay on camp beds. 'These people came to ask us for help,' Comrade al-Sami explained to me. Last week their village became the target of provocation by the Saudi Arabian units. The soldiers set fire to a number of houses, killed the cattle, and several villagers received gunshot wounds. Before the soldiers left, they scattered leaflets in the village, with a text intended to create the impression that it was the South Yemeni soldiers who had perpetrated everything there.

"'A transparent provocation with a clearcut aim,' was Al-Sami's comment. 'They want to undermine the foundations of the bridge of understanding that is being created anew between the two parts of the artificially divided states--foundations that are fragile as it is.'"

Divis concludes the article by saying that he hopes to meet his host next time in San'a' as "the capital of the united democratic and progressive republic of Yemen."

BRIEFS

KUWAITI LOAN TO PDRY--PDRY Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah yesterday signed in Kuwait a loan agreement between the PDRY Government and the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. The loan amounts to 1.9 million Kuwaiti dinars and will be used partly to finance the Khuban Valley agricultural project. [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD]

KUWAITI-JAPANESE TANKER CONSTRUCTION--Kuwait--Kuwait Oil Tankers Company announced today that it has signed contracts with two Japanese companies to build four 80,000-ton tankers for the Kuwaiti company. A spokesman for the company said that Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Company will build two tankers whose total value is $50 million, while Sasebo Company will build the other two tankers estimated at about $49 million. He said that the Kuwaiti company will receive two of the tankers at the beginning of next year and the other two in 1982. The spokesman added that the company's fleet will then rise to 14 oil tankers and 4 gas tankers. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1217 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD]

'TEXT' OF GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR WEST BANK, GAZA AUTONOMY

LD071151 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 Feb 80 p 3 LD

["Text" of Egyptian plan for **full** autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza presented during recent autonomy talks attended by Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, U.S. Presidential Envoy Sol Linowitz and Israeli Chief Delegate Yosef Burg]

[Text] Preamble

A) The Camp David framework for peace provides for the withdrawal of the Israeli military government and its civil administration and for the transfer of its powers to the autonomy authority that is to replace it.

B) By reviewing the powers and responsibilities of the military government and its civil administration, the working group examined in a practical manner the powers and responsibilities to be assumed by the autonomy authority when it replaces the military government and its civil administration in accordance with the provisions of the Camp David framework.

This has been the aim of the review of the current situation, as a means to break the deadlock resulting from the method used at the beginning in the comprehensive discussion of all the principles. It has also been a step to furnish the parties with the basic information necessary for discussing the transfer of authority.

In fact, the review of the powers and responsibilities of the military government and its civil administration was meant to guide the working group, in the light of the review and with regard to the transfer of authority, in preparing the pattern of powers and responsibilities to be assumed by the autonomy authority.

During their meeting in London on 26 October 1979, the delegation heads approved this method and decided on the following:

The review of the situation currently prevailing will furnish the parties with the basic information that will enable them to discuss the transfer of authority in the manner stipulated in the Camp David framework--a point which subsequently led to the general committee's 19 December 1979 invitation to the working group to prepare a proposed pattern of the powers and responsibilities to be assumed by the autonomy authority and to submit it to the general committee for consideration.

C) Having defined the procedure in this manner, it becomes clear that in drawing up the pattern of powers and responsibilities of the autonomy authority, the guideline must be the powers and responsibilities of the military government and its civil administration. The basic points for the discussion of this pattern should be:

1--The withdrawal of the Israeli military government and its civil administration.

2--The transfer of authority.

3--The autonomy organs that are to take over authority from and replace the military government and its civil administration.

The Government and Its Civil-Military Administration

A) On 7 June 1967, the Israeli military governor published Declaration No 2 under the title: "A Declaration on Law and Administration," part of which dealt with the assumption of government by the Israeli Defense Forces and which, under the "assumption of powers" clause, stipulated:

"All government powers, legislation, appointments and administration related to the region or its inhabitants shall from now onward be vested in me alone and shall be exercised by me or by a person appointed by me or acting on my behalf."

B) The Israeli military government existing in the West Bank and Gaza sector has comprehensive, full powers. It exercises the authority of drawing up all policies and coordinating all activities. Government decisionmaking is achieved through various channels and linked with the Israeli Council of Ministers and on various ministerial levels, in addition to a series of military commands down to the area commander or the resident commander (the commander of the West Bank and the commander of Gaza sector), who is vested in his area with full legislative and executive powers in the manner shown in the previous paragraph.

Through military orders, the military governor issues new legislative degrees and amendments to existing laws. Policy is defined on the basis of consideration by the activities coordination office, the Israeli ministry concerned and the area commander.

C) Administrative power is mandated to the provincial and district leaders, and routine administrative tasks and the management of normal activities are left to the institutions concerned which are already actually carrying them out in the West Bank and Gaza, as well as to the new administrative units for services.

The civil administration of the military government consists of branches, each of which supervises a number of units which in turn manage the affairs of daily life.

Unit chiefs, through branch chiefs, come directly under the military governor and simultaneously, in technical matters, under the ministries concerned, from which they receive instructions on how to act on those matters and how to deal with daily problems arising. They also receive from the military governor, through the branch chief, political guidance and executive power.

D) Consequently, the military government and its civil administration consist of various levels exercising varying degrees of power, one legislating and laying down policies and the other executing and applying the policies.

The Camp David framework has provided for the transfer of both types. The matter does not concern the transfer of the administrative structure that conveys orders, but of the authority which has the power to issue orders.

E) It is worth noting that the civil administration of the military government basically consists even to this day of Palestinians.

According to a December 1978 survey there were 11,165 Palestinian employees in the West Bank civil administration and only 980 Israelis. In Gaza there are 14 basic units headed by Palestinian directors general.

It can therefore be said that up to the present time the Palestinians have been taking most of the responsibilities of managing their daily affairs but were implementing decisions made for them and carrying out policies shaped by others.

Therefore, when the Camp David framework promises them full autonomy, this can only mean that under the autonomy authority they will be able to make their own decisions and shape their own policies.

The full autonomy provided for in the Camp David framework for peace might appear to be merely a reorganization of what the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza actually have, whereas naturally it must be dedicated to the complete formation of the autonomy authority itself and to the withdrawal of the military government and the transfer of its various powers to the inhabitants.

Withdrawal of the Military Government and the Transfer of Power

A) The first step to the establishment of autonomy must be the withdrawal of the military government. The Camp David framework for peace clearly provided for the following:

"The military government and its civil administration shall withdraw as soon as the inhabitants of these areas freely elect the autonomy authority that will replace the existing military government."

The supplementary agreement dated 26 March 1978 provided the following:

"The military government and its civil administration shall withdraw in order to be replaced by the autonomy authority."

B) The Camp David framework and the supplementary agreement both differentiated between the types of withdrawal in letters exchanged about withdrawal:

First: The withdrawal of the military government and its civil administration, which should be total and absolute.

Second: Withdrawal of the Israeli military forces, which shall be partial, with the remaining forces being redeployed in specific security areas.

C) The withdrawal of the military government and its civil administration, which will take place as soon as an autonomy authority is elected, is the first step for this authority to assume its powers and responsibilities. The transfer of power takes place by the military government and its civil administration transferring their powers and responsibilities to the newly elected authority.

Thus the self-rule authority will replace the old regime.

D) In this regard the following factors must be underlined:

1--The transfer of power means the handing over of all the powers and responsibilities exercised by the military government and its administration.

2--The transfer of power should be carried out in a peaceful and organized manner.

3--If, during the process of transfer of power, a Palestinian organ is found which is part of the existing local administration in the West Bank and Gaza, it may assume the powers of and replace the military government and its civil administration. But if new responsibilities or powers are to be transferred to the autonomy authority which were not previously exercised by the Palestinians under the military rule, a search for new organs must be pursued.

E) Powers and responsibilities that were not previously exercised by Palestinians under the military rule must be determined with a view to proposing the necessary organs required for this.

The Palestinians have played the major role in the civil administration which carried out the policies and orders issued by the military regime. But under the autonomy regime it is necessary to create a new organ to exercise the new powers, make its own decisions and draw up its own policies. There is no doubt that the elected autonomy authority will be this organ.

The Powers and Responsibilities Exercised by the Autonomy Authority

In order to determine the type of powers and responsibilities exercised by the autonomy authority, certain terms in the provisions of the Camp David framework for peace considered to be the key and the guide must be underlined from the beginning:

A) It is an autonomy authority in the sense that it rules itself by itself and exercises its powers from within. No outside source shall impose its authority on it.

B) It shall prepare full, not partial or incomplete self-rule.

C) It shall come about as a result of free elections, which will make it a democratic ruling authority for the people and by the people. Since it is an elected body, it is of a representative character and exercises all the responsibilities and powers that are usually exercised by an elected power.

Characteristics of the Autonomy Authority

The autonomy authority is considered a temporary arrangement for a transitional period not exceeding 5 years. This transition, whose beginning is the withdrawal of the military government and its civil administration and the establishment of the autonomy authority, may prove that the practical problems of progress toward peace can be solved satisfactorily. The transition period aims at change in attitudes that may lead to a final settlement which will achieve the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and guarantee security for all the parties.

The purpose of these transitional arrangements is:

A) To insure the transfer of authority to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza sector in a peaceful and organized manner.

B) To help the Palestinian people to develop their political, economic and social institutions in the West Bank and Gaza sector in order to achieve the principle of full autonomy provided by the indigenous authority.

C) To create suitable conditions for the Palestinian people to participate in the negotiations that will lead to the solution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects and to the attainment of the Palestinian people's lawful rights, including their right to self-determination.

The Extent of the Autonomy Authority

A) The autonomy authority shall extend over all the Palestinian areas which were occupied after 5 June 1967 and which were defined in the 1949 armistice agreements (the 2 April 1949 Egyptian-Israeli armistice agreement regarding the Gaza sector and the 24 February 1949 Jordanian-Israeli armistice agreement regarding the West Bank, including Arab Jerusalem).

B) The autonomy authority in the West Bank and Gaza sector shall extend over both the inhabitants and the land alike.

C) All the autonomy powers and responsibilities shall apply to the West Bank and Gaza sector, which will be considered as one region under the full autonomy.

D) All changes made in the geographical nature, the demographic structure or the legal status of all or part of the West Bank and Gaza sector shall be considered null and void and must be abolished because they obstruct the attainment of the Palestinian people's lawful rights as defined in the Camp David framework for peace, particularly with regard to the following:

1--The Israeli decision to annex East Jerusalem is considered null and void and must be abolished. The Security Council resolutions in this connection must be applied, particularly Resolutions 242 and 267 on Jerusalem, which is an indivisible part of the West Bank. The Arab legal and historical rights to the city must be respected and restored.

2--The Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza sector are illegal and, within the framework of a final settlement, must be withdrawn [sahbaha]. An end must also be put to the building of new settlements and to the expansion of the existing settlements during the transitional period. On the establishment of the autonomy, authority, all the settlements and settlers in the West Bank and Gaza sector shall come under its authority.

General Powers and Responsibilities of the Autonomous Authority

A) The promulgation of laws and regulations.
B) The charting of policies and the monitoring of their implementation.
C) The preparation and approval of the budget.
D) The levying and collection of taxes.
E) The appointment of individual officials.
F) The issue of identity cards and travel documents.
G) Control of the entry and exit of individuals and goods to and from the region.
H) The competence to assume commitments and ownership.
I) The power to own public land.
J) The power to adjudicate.
K) The power to ratify contracts.
L) The power to participate in the final negotiations on defining the final status of the West Bank and Gaza sector and to seek the opinion of the Palestinians.

M) The following responsibilities:
--public administration;
--public services;
--internal security, public order and police;
--public property and natural resources;
--economic and financial fields;
--social and cultural fields;
--respect for human rights and public freedoms;
N) Judicial authority and law enforcement.

Structure of the Autonomy Authority

A) The autonomy authority shall consist of 80 to 100 members to be freely elected by the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza sector.

B) The structure of the autonomy authority shall consist of two institutions:

A parliamentary assembly comprising all those freely elected as representatives of the West Bank and Gaza sector;

An executive council comprising of 10 to 15 members to be elected by the parliamentary assembly.

C) The parliamentary assembly:

1--The parliamentary assembly assumes the powers of and replaces the military government in legislating laws and by-laws, drawing up policies, supervising their implementation, approving the budget, levying taxes and so on and so forth.

2--The assembly decides its statutes by itself. It also decides the formation of its presidium, which is to comprise its speaker and one or more of his deputies and the number and formation of its internal committee.

D) The executive council:

1--The executive council assumes the actual administration of the West Bank and Gaza and implements the policies drawn up by the parliamentary assembly in the various fields.

2--It shall have comprehensive powers in all the spheres and have absolute jurisdiction to organize, administer, appoint individual officials and supervise the following branches:

Education, culture and information, health, transport and communications, social affairs, labor, tourism, internal security, housing, religious affairs, agriculture, economic affairs, finance and trade, industry and justice.

E) The council shall establish its own departments and branches as it may deem necessary for the proper conduct of its tasks. It shall determine the number of the departments and their internal organizations and the machinery of coordination between them as may be required for the best and most effective performance to achieve its activities. It may in this regard seek expert assistance from other parties.

F) The organization of the judiciary shall be achieved through a system of courts, a court of appeal and a higher court and the insuring of full guarantees for the independence of the judiciary and its proper administration of justice.

G) The autonomy authority shall have a representative alongside representatives from Israel and Egypt (and Jordan) at the permanent committee emanating from the Camp David framework for peace (Article 2). All matters of interest to Israel and to the autonomy authority that need a common solution may be solved through the said committee.

Headquarters of the Autonomy Authority

The headquarters of the autonomy authority shall be in East Jerusalem.

Additional Arrangements

A) Immediately upon the establishment of the autonomy authority in the West Bank and Gaza sector the Israeli armed forces shall withdraw and the remaining forces shall be redeployed to specified security positions. Any move by the military forces to or through the region requires permission.

B) The Camp David framework for peace provides for negotiations to be held between the parties for an agreement that provides, among other things, for determining arrangements to insure internal and external security and public order.

Responsibility for security and public order shall be determined collectively by the parties, which include the Palestinians, Israelis, Egyptians (and Jordanians). The United States will participate fully in this settlement.

C) A strong local police force shall be established in the West Bank and Gaza Sector. It shall be established by the autonomy authority and consist of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza sector.

D) A land route is to be established between the West Bank and Gaza sector, and agreement is to be reached on the arrangements for linking the two areas.

Publication Not Authorized

LD071627 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Text] An official spokesman at the Foreign Ministry has stated that what the newspaper AL-AHRAM published regarding the Egyptian plan for full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza during the transitional period was not referred to the Foreign Ministry and was published without its knowledge.

The spokesman said that if the ministry wanted to publish the plan it would have published an official translation of the English version submitted by the Egyptian delegation during the talks.

AUTONOMY TALKS WITH ISRAEL POSTPONED TO 12 FEB

NC072259 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2248 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 February--Egypt has agreed to an Israeli request for postponement of the autonomy talks by the two working committees concerned with the elections and the jurisdictions of the elected Palestinian authority until Tuesday, 12 February, instead of Sunday, 10 February, provided that the discussions continue until 14 February.

AL-AHRAM says in Friday's edition that Ambassador James Leonard, the alternate head of U.S. delegation to the talks on autonomy for the Palestinians, is holding contacts in Tel Aviv following his meetings in Cairo to prepare the climate for the resumption of discussions in Al-Jizah. AL-AHRAM adds that the discussions are aimed at crystallizing what was discussed at Herzliyya and turning it into a working plan aimed at a final agreement on the jurisdictions of the Palestinian authority.

OMANI MILITARY DELEGATION CONCLUDES TALKS, LEAVES

NC071546 Cairo MENA in English 1530 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, Feb 7 (MENA)--The final session of military talks between Chief of Staff of the Armed Force Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi and Omani Defense Under Secretary Col Salim 'Abdallah al-Ghazali was held here this afternoon at the Defense Ministry headquarters.

Following the two-hour session Gen. Badawi said that the talks were successful and that they were carried out within the framework of the good relations linking the two countries. He added that the talks reiterated that the support of Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to Egypt's steps towards a comprehensive and just peace springs from his full conviction that Egypt is on the right path to liberate the Arab lands regardless of Oman's interests in Egypt or vice-versa. Lieutenant General Badawi further added that he affirmed to the Omani delegation that Egypt is determined to reach a solution for the Palestinian problem, which is the core of the problem, as well as to restore the West Bank and Arab Jerusalem and that this main target is affirmed repeatedly by President Anwar as-Sadat.

Leaves for Home

NC081200 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 8 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 February--Omani Defense Ministry Under Secretary Col Salim 'Abdallah al-Ghazali and the delegation accompanying him left Cairo today for Muscat after a week-long visit. During the visit, the Omani guest met with Vice President Husni Mubarak and held talks with Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi on developing military cooperation. The Omani delegation also visited air and naval bases, military units and the liberated zones in Sinai.

NAVY PLANS TO KEEP ABREAST OF ARMS DEVELOPMENTS

LD071555 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 30 Jan 80 pp 1, 10 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Excerpt] Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi has declared that the United States will supply our forces with submarines, pontoon bridges, missile boats and frigates and that certain other countries will supply Egypt with various types of naval units.

He said development of the armed forces in order to keep abreast of present day developments is one of the political leadership's top priorities.

The chief of staff, speaking at the celebration held in Alexandria by the naval forces to mark training day, said: We are still living in a world in which right is protected by might. It is Egypt's goal to bring the armed forces to the highest level of combat readiness.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND WASHINGTON ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD071631 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Text] An Egyptian delegation representing Al-Azhar headed Dr al-Husayni Hashim, general secretary of the Academy of Islamic Research, is to leave for Washington to attend the Islamic conference which the Islamic Center in Washington is convening to discuss Soviet aggression against Afghanistan.

The 3-day conference, which is to be attended by representatives of 70 Islamic countries and countries with Islamic minorities, will discuss adopting a unified stand in the face of the communist danger threatening many Islamic states. The conference will also discuss the problems of Muslims throughout the world, human rights, and resistance to the wave of atheism sweeping some Islamic states.

AL-AHRAM ON REPORTED SOVIET 'DEAL' ON AFGHANISTAN, PALESTINE

LD070951 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 Feb 80 p 7 LD

[Editorial: "The Logic of Soviet Colonialism"]

[Text] A magazine published in Beirut [according to Kuwait AS-SIYASAH of 5 February, the magazine is ASH-SHARQ AL-'ARABI] which derives its news from Syria has said "the Soviet Union has informed Syria it will withdraw its forces from Afghanistan if the Palestinians are able to go back to their country and if Israel returns Jerusalem to the Arabs and the Golan Heights to Syria." The magazine also said that Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko gave details of this "barter deal" to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during his visit to Al-Asad last week.

Although that might seem strange, it is obvious that it completely conforms with Soviet thinking, which is based on deceiving the Arabs, cheating the Arab leaders and people, and attempting to make them believe that the Soviets are working for the Arabs' benefit while in fact they are working against all Arab interests and all Palestinian aims and undermining all the sound courses of action that will bring the Palestinians closer to attainment of their rights.

That sort of thing happened before the State of Israel was declared, when the Soviet Union fed Israel with immigrants. It happened when the State of Israel was declared, and Moscow rushed to become the first state to recognize Israel. It also happened when the Soviet Union entered the Middle East countries as an arms merchant, on the pretext of fighting Israel while, in fact, it had agreed with the United States on implementing a policy of "military detente" with regard to the Middle East--a policy that would prevent the Arabs from fighting Israel and enable Israel to control the territories it had occupied and to perpetuate the fait accompli.

Egypt's October victory was the biggest blow to Moscow's policy in the area. Then came the peace initiative, to finish off what was left of that policy. Consequently, Moscow adopted a stand of opposition to the results of the peace initiative, despite all the Kremlin leaders' allegations about peace. It appears that they are sure to remain an obstacle on the way to peace and to the Palestinian rights, to the extent of saying that they will not get out of Afghanistan unless the Palestinians return to their homeland.

The strange thing, however, is for the Soviet Union to liken its rape of Afghanistan and invasion of that small country to the Palestine cause. The Palestine cause is an issue of liberation, whereas the Afghan issue is one of colonialism. But the two issues concur insofar as the Soviet attitude to them is one of deception--deception of the people of Afghanistan that it is working for their benefit, while its tanks are killing Afghan people; and deception of the Palestinian people that it is working for their benefit, while it is exerting all its efforts to obstruct the course of peace and to prevent the Palestinians from attaining their rights.

MALIAN PRESIDENT TRAORE DEPARTS AFTER TALKS

JN071035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 7 February--Malian President and Secretary General of the Malian People's Union Moussa Traore left Baghdad for Damascus this morning at the end of a 4-day visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Saddam Husayn. The Malian president was accorded a big official send-off led by President Saddam Husayn. RCC members, ministers and top officials also participated in the send-off ceremony.

In a press statement before departure, President Moussa Traore described his talks with President Saddam Husayn as fruitful, friendly and fraternal, adding that various issues of common interest were also discussed during the talks.

The Malian president praised President Saddam Husayn's initiative to found an international fund to aid developing states. The Malian president added that this initiative came at the right time and that this fund will play an important role in developing relations between developing states in general and the nonalined movement in particular.

The Malian president affirmed his country's support for the Arab people's struggle to defend their rights and regain their occupied territories. The Malian president stressed that there will be no real peace in the Arab region until the Arab Palestinian people regain their rights and usurped territories.

The delegation accompanying the Malian president held talks with several top Iraqi officials, which led to signing an agreement for economic and technical cooperation.

Joint Statement

JN071750 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--Iraq and Mali have strongly condemned the racist Zionist aggression against the Arab people. They affirmed that a just and lasting peace cannot be established without the total and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories. They underlined that the restoration of the full rights of the Palestinian people on their soil and homeland and the establishment of an independent and sovereign state in Palestine are conditions for the achievement of a just and lasting peace.

In a joint statement issued here and in Bamako today, the two sides renewed their total support for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their land under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Iraq and Mali affirmed their solid stand, which calls for the restoration of Jerusalem to its natural status as a united Arab city so that it can resume its historic and religious Arab position. They recalled the UN General Assembly's resolution that considered Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination. They affirmed that this resolution is a triumph for the African peoples as well as the Arab nation.

In the joint statement, the two sides condemned the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon, describing it as part of the imperialist maneuvers aimed at liquidating the Palestinian resistance movement and as a violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, security and territorial integrity.

The Iraqi and Malian sides strongly denounced the blatant violation of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights which resulted from the Camp David accords and the separate treaty concluded between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity with the active participation of imperialism. The two sides affirmed that these accords and treaty constitute a conspiracy against the Arab people's interests and an attempt to divide Arab ranks and maintain the Zionist occupation of Arab land.

The two sides praised the resolution of the sixth nonalined summit conference which condemned the Camp David accords. They also praised the conferences decision to refer the subject of the Egyptian regimes suspension from the movement to the coordination office. They denounced the Egyptian regimes policy of isolation regarding the Palestinian issue, a policy which violates the principles and resolutions of nonalinement.

Iraq and Mali affirmed that safeguarding security and stability in the Arab Gulf area is the responsibility of the indigenuous states alone, without any intervention.

The two sides reaffirmed their backing and support for the liberation movements in Africa and Latin America and strongly condemned the racist regimes in Africa. They called on progressive countries to undertake joint action so as to end the persecution imposed on the peoples of South Africa and Namibia by the racist regime.

The two sides reaffirmed their stand on maintaining the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions as an area of peace devoid of foreign influence and bases in the interests of the states and peoples in the region.

The Iraqi and Malian sides expressed their support for the need to continue the north-south dialog between developing and industrialized states on international economic cooperation. They affirmed the importance of holding a round of international negotiations within the framework of the United Nations, the results of which can be implemented and can be an integrated and balanced solution to the major related issues. The two sides explained that these negotiations should effectively contribute to the implementation of an international development strategy and the transfer of technology to developing countries.

The joint statement hailed the resolutions of the sixth nonalined summit conference and stressed the two sides determination and resolution to safeguard the unity and basic principles of the nonalined movement and enhance its active role.

The Malian side valued Iraq's initiative of proposing the establishment of a long-lasting world fund to aid developing countries against the effects of inflation. Industrial and oil-exporting developing countries will contribute to this fund.

The joint statement, which was issued following Malian President Moussa Traore's visit to Iraq, pointed out that the two sides agreed to take steps to strengthen official and party bilateral relations.

The two sides signed an agreement for economic and technical cooperation to regulate the relations between the two countries in various fields.

TUNISIAN ENVOY LEAVES FOR DAMASCUS 7 FEB

JN071734 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 7 February--Mohamed Mzali, envoy of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to President Saddam Husayn and minister of national education, left Baghdad for Damascus this afternoon.

YUGOSLAVIA'S DRAGAN MEETS DEPUTY PREMIER RAMADAN

JN071117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan met here today with Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council in Yugoslavia. During the meeting, the two officials discussed economic and industrial relations between the two friendly countries and ways to bolster these relations and the role played by Yugoslav firms in Iraq in implementing several projects of the national development plan.

Zvone Dragan arrived here yesterday at the head of a delegation on visit of several days to Iraq.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN071249 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] At noon today, Iraq and Yugoslavia signed an agreement for information cooperation between the two friendly states. The agreement was signed on the Iraqi side by RCC member and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. The agreement was signed on the Yugoslav side by Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council in Yugoslavia.

The signing ceremony was attended by Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nasif Jasim ad-Dulaymi and Khamis Sa'id, head of the radio and television organization.

Meets Transport Minister

JN071951 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--Sa'dun Ghaydan, deputy prime minister and minister of transport and communcations, met here today with Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council in Yugoslavia. During the meeting, Ghaydan expressed the desire to strengthen relations between Iraq and Yugoslavia. The two sides discussed the possibility of strengthening bilateral cooperation in the sphere of communications and exchanging expertise in this field.

Meets With Agriculture Minister

JN071952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--'Amir Mahdi, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, met here today with Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council in Yugoslavia, and the delegation accompanying him. The two sides discussed the means for expanding bilateral agricultural cooperation.

Talks With Trade Minister

JN071953 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 February--Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met here today with Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council in Yugoslavia.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral trade and economic relations and means to strengthen them.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED TO SEPARATE TOP POSTS

LD080943 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 2 Feb 80 pp 1, 11 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, member of the Revolution Command Council and of the higher committee supervising the National Assembly elections, has declared that the Iraqi Constitution will be amended in accordance with the provisions of the country's National Assembly Law.

Speaking at a press conference at the experimental electoral center in Dhat as-Salasil district, he said the amendment aims at removing the contradiction between the existing provision in the constitution, which stipulates that the Revolution Command Council chairman is, by law, president of the republic, and the by-laws of the National Assembly which provide for a necessary vote of confidence in the president of the republic.

He explained that the amendment will be made on the basis of President Saddam Husayn's personal request that the president of the republic should be approved in a popular referendum.

'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin said that the Revolution Command Council will elect a chairman from among its members, who will be put to a vote of confidence by the National Assembly as president of the republic, in the event that the incumbent president fails to obtain the assembly's vote of confidence.

Amin declared that the National Assembly Law and the law for the legislative assembly of the self-rule area will be made public in a few days' time, after they are legislated by the Revolution Command Council.

He said that more than 6 million voters will take part in the general election for the people's assembly, which will take place during the first half of this year.

AL-HUSS REAFFIRMS IMPORTANCE OF SYRIAN RELATIONS

NC071945 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Text] This evening Prime Minister al-Huss made the following statement:

We are currently bent on increasing our contacts with officials of fraternal Syria on various levels because of our strong interest in the distinctive fraternal relations that bind the two countries and out of our commitment to having the Arab Deterrent Force play its great national role in maintaining Lebanon's security, unity and well-being. Our attitude also stems from our desire to deprive Lebanon's enemies of the opportunity to strike at this country and harm its unity and Arab character.

Prime Minister al-Huss went on: We are al. aware that Lebanon can extricate itself from its dire crisis by intensifying its cooperation with our sister Syria to the utmost in all spheres and by establishing relations based on the principles of full understanding, sincere cooperation and constructive reciprocity. Any disregard of these facts constitutes an abandonment of Lebanon's interests.

NATIONAL MOVEMENT REJECTS ARMY DEPLOYMENT IN BEIRUT

NC071605 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Text] A delegation representing the Lebanese National Movement has informed Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss of the movement's rejection of the Lebanese Cabinet's decision to hand over security tasks in Beirut to the Lebanese Army. The National Movement considers that the decision constitutes a provocation against the Lebanese national forces, Syria and the Palestinian resistance. The representatives of the National Movement affirmed their strong objection to the deployment of the army in the capital because of their desire to prevent a new conflagration in the country.

VOL REPORTS SHELLINGS IN BEIRUT, OTHER AREAS

NC080704 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 8 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpts] Some pro-Syrian organizations have tried to explode the security situation in Beirut and the north with the aim of obstructing the implementation of the Lebanese Cabinet's decision to deploy the army in the market and contact areas and to open some highways. Syrian and leftist armed men and their allies have used heavy weapons and rockets in their shelling of the center of Beirut and the traditional axes; two women were killed and three other people were wounded. The fire was directed mainly at Pigalle, Ad-Dabbas, Martyrs Square, Al-Jummayzah and As-Sayfi. The two women were killed by sniper fire on the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge.

The shelling of the eastern sector reached Mar Mikha'il an-Nahr. The shelling eased gradually at about midnight. Movement on the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge is still dangerous. In the south, Ra's al-'Ayn-Ar-Rashidiyah in Tyre district came under artillery fire at 2015 for about 30 minutes. An Israeli force that had crossed into the UN operations area withdrew in the evening.

BEIRUT RADIO: ISRAELI PLANES OVERFLY SOUTH

NC081010 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Feb 80 NC

[Text] At 0815 and 1120 today Israeli warplanes flew over southern Lebanon, particularly Sidon and the neighboring camps. Antiaircraft fire was opened on them.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT 7 FEB

JN071650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council, at 1345 today.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Dr Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Abd al-Hamid Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; PLO Executive Committee members Faruq Qaddumi, 'Abd al-Muhsin, 'Abu Mayzar and Talal Naji; and Fatah Central Council members Salah Khalaf and Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym.

The discussion focused on the developments in the Palestinian cause and the situation in the Lebanese arena in light of the decision to assemble the Syrian forces that are operating within the Arab Deterrent Forces. Viewpoints on this issue were exchanged.

During the meeting, Yasir 'Arafat spoke about the results of the Arab contacts he had recently held.

MALIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN071142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpt] Before noon today, Malian President and Secretary General of the Malian People's Union Moussa Traore and his wife arrived in Damascus on an official 5-day visit to Syria.

The Malian president and his wife were received at the plane ramp by President Hafiz al-Asad and his wife; Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the ministers and heads of the diplomatic corps accredited to Damascus.

Hold Meeting 7 Feb

JN072005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Feb 80 JN

[Text] A meeting was held between President Hafiz al-Asad and Malian President Moussa Traore in the Damascene Hall in honor of President Traore and his wife.

The dinner was attended by the members of the delegation accompanying President Traore, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, deputy prime ministers, ministers, assistant ministers and heads of diplomatic missions and their wives.

FINANCE MINISTER MEETS ARAB ECONOMIC COUNCIL OFFICIAL

JN061415 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 6 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 6 February--This morning, Finance Minister Dr Hamdi as-Saqqa received Fakhri Qadduri, secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council, and Muhammad ash-Sharif, assistant secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council.

During the meeting, the discussion centered on bolstering joint Arab action and the recent decisions adopted by the Arab Economic Unity Council.

TISHRIN URGES END TO PRESENT SITUATION IN LEBANON

JN080747 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Feb 80 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting under the headline "Syria and Lebanon Once Again," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Syria is not responsible for the fact that the Lebanese political situation has been kept in a state of flux despite the end of the sedition with Syrian help. Keeping this situation unsettled carries the dangers of explosion and disintegration despite the end of the sedition; the security and good political atmosphere insured by the presence of the Syrian forces; and the big political support provided by Syria in rebuilding the Lebanese state, safeguarding the territorial integrity and national unity of Lebanon, guiding the Lebanese to the national accord which is essential for achieving a lasting political solution and an acceptable formula for Lebanese-Palestinian relations, and guaranteeing the protection and continued existence of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Government's legitimate authority and sovereignty over the whole of Lebanon.

The continuation of the present situation is harmful to Lebanon's interests as well as to the vital interests of Syria and the Arab nation in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism. The continuation of this situation while Zionist pockets still exist in Lebanon and the agents continue to collaborate with the enemy in fomenting sectarian strife, makes Lebanon a vulnerable Arab link susceptible to a further relapse or explosion at any time in the interest of the enemies of Lebanon and the Arabs. Therefore, this situation is not acceptable while Syria and the Arab nation are fighting a tough war against the imperialists and Zionists and their agents.

Syria has already declared the aims of its intervention in Lebanon when President Hafiz al-Asad announced that the aim was to end the sedition in Lebanon. These aims are still unchanged because Syria's national, pan-Arab and humanitarian policy is a firm, principled and steady policy. As in the past, Syria will continue to work for Lebanon's safety, territorial integrity, national unity, sovereignty over all its territory and national accord among its people. Syria has opposed and still opposes the civil war. Syria has rejected and still rejects any foothold for Israel in Lebanon, any room for imperialist maneuver and any role for the enemies of the Arabs and the collaborators with Israel.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: Syria sticks to its obligations toward the fraternal Lebanese people, the Palestinian revolution, the Arab nation and the struggle against the Camp David accords. Syria's decisions have always stemmed from a free national will and the higher pan-Arab interests. This point has always been stressed by President Hafiz al-Asad.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID: ALGERIA HAS NO HOSTILITY TOWARD MOROCCO

LD072139 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid returned to Algiers today from a 2-day visit to Constantine province.

Bendjedid ended his visit to Constantine with an important speech. He spoke on a number of international issues which the Algerian leadership is following with great interest, foremost of which were those concerning national liberation.

He spoke of the Saharan problem and asserted that it was a conflict between the Moroccan regime and the Saharan people. He reiterated that Algeria has no hostility toward fraternal Morocco. [passage indistinct]

Of Afghanistan, the president reiterated Algeria's adherance to the principles of nonalinement and recalled the Algerian revolution's concept of Islam and its adherance to the Islamic principles which came with social justice, progress and equality.

The president concluded his speech by calling on the strugglers to increase their vigilance.

ALGERIA NEEDS 'BALANCED DEVELOPMENT,' BETTER MANAGEMENT

LD071607 [Editorial Report LD] Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French on 21 January on page 1 a 900-word APS commentary on prerequisites for Algeria's development. Referring to recent statements by President Chadli Bendjedid on the subject, APS emphasizes the need for "balanced" development in all spheres, including housing and agriculture, instead of "relying on hydrocarbons." At the same time, APS continues, further steps should be taken to "eliminate social ills" through better management and planning. "The people's elected representatives and local authorities" are to be responsible for carrying out this task, APS adds. In conclusion, APS writes that "at the stage which our country has now reached, it is more necessary than ever that vital forces be united and mobilized round the tasks of national building in accordance with President Chadli Bendjedid's guidelines.

"Any creation of spurious problems or sticking to dogmatic positions plays into the hands of reaction, imperialism and Algeria's enemies.

"Resolving problems through dialog and consultations remains the best way to resolve contradictions and help to build up the country," APS concludes.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI STRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH TUNISIAN UPRISING

LD071525 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Banghazi, February 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--At a banquet in honour of the Venezuelan president last night, the leader of the grand Al-Fatah revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said that a neighbouring country was exposed to invasion by a major power. "I refer to the invasion of Tunisia by the French forces," he added. He continued: "Therefore it becomes clear to us that France has set up a colonialist bridge spreading from Tunisia to Chad and as far as Central Africa. This is in addition its pilfering of the riches of the African peoples, including the Tunisians".

He went onto say that: "We must fight this conquest and it is the duty of the international community to closely watch this invasion." Colonel al-Qadhdhafi then stressed the Libyan people's solidarity with the popular revolution in Tunisia which is exposed to colonialist invasion.

He expressed respect for the Venezuelan policy towards the cause of the Arab nation, namely, the Palestinian question. "We hope for more positive action towards the oppressed Palestinian people," he said.

ANTIREGIME RADIO REPORTEDLY SET UP IN TUNISIA

LD071538 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] Paris--The Spanish News Agency has reported that a spokesman for the Tunisian revolutionaries in Paris had contacted the agency to annouce the setting up of a clandestine radio center that broadcasts under the name "Tunis al-Khadra" (Green Tunisia). The spokesman said that the radio is situated somewhere in Qafsah, where the first spark of the Tunisian people's revolution flared up on Sunday night.

The spokesman for the Tunisian revolutionaries, who wished his name to remain secret, said the purpose of the radio is to contribute to the escalation of the struggle against the present regime and for the liberation of the country from French domination.

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEAKS AT DINNER FOR VENEZUELA'S HERRERA

LD071521 Tripoli JANA in English 1424 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Banghazi, February 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The leader of the grand Al-Fatah revolution Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi last night gave a banquet in honour of the Jamahiriyah's guest President Luis Herrera of Venezuela and his accompanying delegation.

Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi stressed the necessity to invest in the relations of common interest existing between Latin American and the Arab nation and establish strong friendly ties and cooperation between them. At the banquet in honour of Dr. Herrera, Colonal al-Qadhdhafi declared that there were no differences of opinion between the OPEC countries. "It seems we are all determined to revolt because the situation imposed on by us the industrialized and capitalist countries is not correct. The responsibility lies with them and they should be the accused.

He stressed that "we cannot be pressurized or blackmailed because the responsibility for the higher prices and inflation at the detriment of the developing countries lies with the industrialized countries". He pointed out the OPEC countries have offered aid to the developing countries. The development fund set up by the organization is an evidence of its determination to support them. He repeated that the mad increase in the price of industrialized products and inflation were caused by the industrialized capitalist countries.

"We are determined to adopt a new policy", he said which would lead to a radical solution of the problems caused by the industrialized countries and yet for which OPEC countries were held responsible. Evidence of the success of this new policy is the presence of a new element, namely the outbreak of the revolution in Iran, oneof the major oil-exporting countries.

Moreover, the oil regions are gradually liberating themselves from imperialist hegemony.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed the failure of all imperialist attempts to maintain the control over the oil countries. Libya was liberated, then Algeria, Iraq and Iran. He pointed out that the revolution was provoked by the blackmail they were exposed to. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi called on the Venezuelan president to alter his country's policy towards the Palestinian people. "We hope that Venezuela would adopt a more positive and effective stand towards the oppressed Palestinian people," he said.

MAURITANIA

CMSN PRESIDENT RECEIVES TUNISIAN ENVOY

AB071350 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 7 Feb 80 AB

[Text] The president of the Tunisian National Assembly, Dr (Hadakr Mohaden), has ended his visit to Nouakchott. President Bourguiba's special envoy, who has just left Nouakchott for Morocco, was received in audience this morning by the president of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] head of state and government. The audience took place in the presence of Lt (Daksane Lakhme Mahmoud), minister attached to the CMSN. During the audience, Dr (Hadakr Mohadem) gave the head of state a personal message from President Bourguiba. The message, he said, was related to the recent events in Qafsah. He said the head of state offered him a most fraternal welcome and showed him great understanding [words indistinct] the relations between Mauritania and Tunisia based on strong historical ties in the interest of the people of our two Maghreb countries and the whole Arab world. The president of the Tunisian National Assembly was greeted at the airport, as he was last night, by Lt (Daksane Lakhme Mohmoud), minister attached to the Military Committee for National Salvation.

MINISTERS DEPART FOR TRIPS TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES

AB061435 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 6 Feb 80 AB

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr Mohamed El Moktar Ould Zamel, and the minister of health, labor and social welfare, Dr Diagana Youssef left Nouakchott yesterday evening with a message from the president of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] head of state and government, Lt Col Mohamed Ould Haydala.

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation is going to Senegal, Ivory Coast, Liberia and the People's Republic of Guinea, while the minister of health, labor and social welfare is going to Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon and Benin.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC, FOREIGN ISSUES

LD061617 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jan 80 pp 1-2 LD

['Abdallah Jifri report]

[Excerpts] Khartoum, ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri held a press conference at the Hall of Friendship yesterday morning. At the conference, which was attended by foreign, Arab and local press representatives, Numayri answered a question by emphasizing the absence of contradiction of lukewarmness in the relations between Sudan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also emphasized that Sudan will not sever its relations with Egypt.

Regarding the oil that is to be extracted by Sudan, President Numayri said that this oil will not constitute a risk to Sudan but will bolster Sudanese industry. He added that the oil that does present a risk to Sudan is that oil which Sudan gets from the other Arab states.

He said: Our cadres are not afraid to work in the sphere of oil or the industries deriving from it.

He added: So far, we have exploited not more than 17 percent of the agricultural land but this 17 percent must be viewed in proportion to the total arable land. The area of cultivable land is 200 million feddan which is a fantastic figure and equal, I believe, to the entire area of some states.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked President Numayri about Sudan entering a new political phase that requires ministerial changes. He said: After the conclusion of the third national congress [of the Sudanese Socialist Union] Sudan will actually enter a new phase--the so-called phase of peak decentralization or regional rule. That, of course, will require fundamental changes in many of Sudan's political administrations. If the congress approves regional rule, that will necessitate choosing regional governors and ministers as well as heads for the various ministries or the various central departments which will be dealing with the regional bodies. It will also require closing some of the new central organs which will be dealing with the new system. [sentence as published]

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT also asked President Numayri: What progress have you made in the implementation of the development plan and what are the most important features of this plan? Is the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia participating in this development?

He said: Regarding the question of development, I would like to reassert, as I asserted in my report and speech, that Sudan continues to implement the development plan despite the various problems it faced with Egypt.

Speaking about Camp David and Sudan's relations with Egypt following the normalization of relations with Israel, he said: I did not speak at all at Tunis [summit conference]. My presence in Tunis was a major problem. Everybody spoke about this except me. President Numayri's presence there was the subject of comment by all the journalists. They attributed to me statements which I never made. As for Sudan's relations with Egypt, these were defined by the Baghdad conference. There are special relations with Egypt. We will not tamper with our relations with Egypt in any way. We will not break diplomatic relations with Egypt. Breaking relations is one thing and withdrawing the ambassador and others is something else. This is what we have done and what international law gives us the right to do.

Speaking about Afghanistan, he said: Sudan's attitude in principle is against this intervention. As for the intervention in Africa, which I now see is also an intervention by the Soviets, it is a new colonialism as I said a few years ago. Interference in the Horn of Africa, in Angola and the attempt to interfere in Zaire was carried out by the Soviets. We do not wish to reverse the facts, because we are against interference.

Speaking about the situation on the internal front, Numayri described it as splendid, strong and free of disruption. As for those who declined the call for national reconciliation, they have their own reasons; they would have wanted it only if it benefitted them personally. There were some leaders who insisted on being leaders in this country after the reconciliation, forgetting that after 10 years much has changed in the political life of this country.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

LD061553 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 1 Feb 80 pp 18-20 LD

[Interview given to Nash'at at-Taghlibi of AL-HAWADITH by Sudanese Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr at the Sudanese Foreign Ministry in Khartoum--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Regarding the Tunis conference, has any change occurred in Sudan's attitude toward Egypt, as was reported recently?

[Answer] I would like to say that no change has occurred in Sudan's position, in the sense that when the Camp David agreement was signed, Sudan issued a statement pointing out its support for peaceful efforts in principle. As for the two agreements, Sudan expressed basic reservations on the situation regarding East Jerusalem, the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the occupied territories. These are three basic issues on which Sudan expressed reservations, clearly pointing out that these basic issues are very ambiguous in the two agreements. This statement was taken by some to mean that Sudan supported the two agreements. It was perhaps on the basis of this misinterpretation that several attitudes were defined and adopted--attitudes which were necessarily erroneous because they were based on misconception. Sudan's concern during the past phase was to explain its real attitude, particularly toward its brothers in Egypt. There were two methods of doing that: participation in the conferences and meetings called for by the Arab League--in fact, Sudan participated in such conferences and its attitude was consistent with the view of the Arab majority--and explanation of its attitude through the information media and the Foreign Ministry. Despite all the efforts Sudan made, the hostile campaign remained strong.

[Question] The hostile campaign by whom?

[Answer] By some Arab sides and by some elements which tried to take advantage of the situation. When the Tunis conference was held later, it provided us with a better opportunity to explain the reality of our stand. It must be said, however, that our ties with the Egyptian people are based on strong and firm historical relations in which we take pride and which we cherish.

This is one fact. Another fact is that Sudan is part of the Arab nation and therefore it has duties and commitments which it must fulfill. Meanwhile, our relationship with the Egyptian people imposes on us numerous commitments and we try to discharge our duty toward Egypt by virtue of the bonds that bind the two peoples. We also try to discharge our duty toward the Arab nation. Sudan seeks to honor all of its commitments, particularly those which are related to the fateful issue for the sake of which all the Arab nation is struggling. In this issue, there are fundamental elements to which Sudan cannot but adhere, together with the Arab nation: the Palestinian people's right to return to their land and to establish their own state, the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of Jerusalem to the Arab nation.

In its moves to achieve these fundamental aims, Sudan has always wished for action within a comprehensive strategy under which all the Arab nation's material, human and military capabilities would be mobilized. Sudan believes that such a comprehensive strategy cannot be drawn up or implemented except through comprehensive, undivided Arab action. Sudan always tried to make this matter clear, both during and before the Tunis conference. Perhaps the bilateral discussions during the Tunis conference, the Arab League Council meetings and the summit conference provided a better opportunity to clarify this view. Fortunately, one of the summit resolutions was that a comprehensive strategy be drawn up. Sudan has a specific view on this matter. We will present this view and debate it with our brothers so that the next conference will have a studied and practical plan before it.

[Question] I believe the strategy to be drawn up will deal primarily with Israel?

[Answer] Naturally, because the Arab-Israeli conflict is the basis.

[Question] It will take into consideration the fact that Egypt has dropped out of the battle?

[Answer] Yes, certainly. The new strategy involves the Arab states which participated in the Baghdad and Tunis summits. Egypt, regrettably, was absent from Baghdad and Tunis. Many of the Arab brothers pointed out that if Egypt dropped out of the confrontation with Israel--naturally, it is a great loss to the Arab nation for Egypt, with all its influence and weight, to drop out of the battle--then, the Arabs have to compensate for Egypt's absence by greater Arab solidarity and greater mobilization of the Arab nation's resources and capabilities, in order to fill the vacuum left by Egypt. A comprehensive strategy can compensate for this loss because, despite Egypt's dropping out, our Arab nation has enormous capabilities, provided we exploit them and use them properly.

[Question] The Arabs have enormous capabilities to exert pressure on the United States through its numerous interests in order to make it adopt a clearer and more decisive attitude toward Arab rights. Have these capabilities been used? Can these capabilities be used effectively?

[Answer] I believe that the present Arab stand certainly constitutes pressure on U.S. policy. The changes that have occurred in American public opinion did not happen by accident. When the two Camp David agreements were signed, the United States might have expected certain Arab states to support, participate in, or accede to the agreements. This expectation did not materialize and the facts turned out to be different from expectations. The states which were expected to support the two agreements actually opposed them. It also transpired that the Palestinians, who represent the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict, were against the agreements.

Meanwhile, Israel was unhelpful toward the United States. The follies it has committed and continues to commit by its hard line and intransigence have begun to constitute obstacles standing in the way of any solution. The efforts exerted by the Arab states have begun to bear fruit both in the United States and Europe. The constantly mounting opposition to the two agreements in African and nonalined states is another factor. I believe that all these factors will inevitably have an impact on the American attitude and make the United States realize that the efforts, under the new circumstances, cannot lead to comprehensive peace. On the contrary, they might complicate the situation and cause it to explode. In view of the fact that the special circumstances now facing President Carter and his administration because of the approaching Presidential elections make it difficult for him to adopt a new attitude, I believe it is impossible for the situation to continue as it is and some kind of change must take place.

[Question] Egypt is now in the process of normalizing its relations with Israel. It is understood from certain Sudanese press reports that the presence of an Israeli ambassador in Cairo will cause embarrassment to Sudan and could lead to the severance of relations between the two countries or, at best, to the lowering of the level of these relations. Is that ture?

[Answer] I prefer to defer answering this question to the appropriate time. The normalization of relations is not far off.

[Question] This subject gives rise to another question: If the relations are severed or are reduced, what will be the fare of the military commitments between Egypt and Sudan, especially the joint defense treaty?

[Answer] As I have said, I prefer to defer the answer to this question. I believe that you will be visiting us often in the future, God willing, and we will then have other chances for future dialog.

TUNISIA

OFFICIAL PLAYS DOWN ALGERIAN ATTACK ON 'INTERVENTIONISM'

LD080955 Paris LE MONDE in French 6 Feb 80 p 6 LD

[Michel Deure and James Sarrazin dispatch: "Tunis Gives Stern Reply to Tripoli Radio's Hysterical Commentaries"]

[Excerpt] Tunis--Although opposition to Libya is growing in Tunisia, Tunis refused on Monday evening to exaggerate the immportance of an article published that morning by EL MOUDJAHID and signed by one of its journalists in which the Algerian National Liberation Front daily attacked "military interventionism" in the Maghreb region and stressed that "every time the people's desire for independence and economic liberation is demonstrated, a coalition of reactionary and imperialist interests opposes it."

A Tunisian official told us that it was essential "not to draw hasty conclusions," not to "throw fat in the fire" and to "keep cool." He also pointed out that EL MOUDJAHID has not always systematically reflected the Algerian Government's stances. This official concluded: "We know quite well that Algeria is not involved in this Libyan affair."

POLITICAL COMMITTEE EXAMINES RESULTS OF AGGRESSION

LD071522 Tunis TAP in English 1413 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Feb 7 (TAP)--The PSD Political Committee held Wednesday its periodical meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Hedi Nouira, secretary general of the party and Tunisian premier. During this meeting, the Political Committee continued to examine the consequences of the aggression against Qafsah.

The Political Committee pays a tribute to the Tunisian nation which showed, during this test, its indissoluble unity, its exemplary unanimity, its faithfulness to Bourguiba's principles and its attachment to Tunisia's independence and invulnerability.

They also pay a tribute to government forces, to popular structures and citizens for their constant vigilance and the achievement of the duty which falls on them in defending Tunisia's attainments and territorial integrity.

The committee points out that it is essential to be constantly alert so as to frustrate all plots and disclose unconfessed schemes aimed at prejudicing Tunisia's entity and independence.

Besides, the Political Committee inquired into the outcome of the mission carried out by Mr Fouad Mbazaa, special envoy of the head of state to sister Algeria, and recorded with satisfaction that Tunisian-Algerian relations were limpid and that Algerian officials were concerned with strengthening relations of neighbourliness between both brother countries and throwing out everything likely to disturb them.

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA INTERVIEWED ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AU071625 Rome ANSA in English 1550 GMT 7 Feb 80 AU

[Text] Milan, February 7 (ANSA)--Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira said today that the North African state has "enough friends" to get what it needs to stand up to the weaponry possessed by the neighbouring Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Interviewed for this morning's edition of the conservative Milan daily, IL GIORNALE, Nouira also announced that, if the situation warrants it, Tunisia may take its problems with Tripoli to the Arab League, or even the UN Security Council.

Relations between the two countries took a plunge for the worse when a group of guerrillas, according to Tunis, backed by the Libyans, attacked the mining town of Qafsah 350 kilometers south of the Tunisian capital just over ten days ago. The force was apparently made up of Tunisian exiles who moved into Tunisia from Algerian territory in order to cover their tracks and original departure point, said by the Tunisians to be the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The attack was "intended to have much vaster dimensions," Nouira told the Italian daily, indirectly confirming recent press reports that the force was larger than originally admitted by the Tunisian authorities.

Asked whether he thought there was a possibility of a relaxation of relations with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Nouira pointed out that he has declared he wants to overturn the Tunisian government. "And we should want detente?", he asked rhetorically, reflecting the spirit of IL GIORNALE's headline, "Farewell Al-Qadhdhafi, Cruel Brother."

"The only danger is that we are not sure that Al-Qadhdhafi will keep quiet," Nouira added, also ruling out Algerian complicity in the Qafsah attack. "I do not think the Algerian Government was compromised in any way in the Libyan regime's aggression," he said. "Certainly, there are material circumstances that regard Algeria, the mercenaries passed through Algerian territory. But, I repeat, I do not think in any way that the Algerian Government had ties with this affair."

Nouira was also asked whether Tunisia will strengthen its relations with France and the United States in the near future.

"Tunisia's relations with France and the United States are currently good enough, and they will be kept at that level," he replied.

"[I] should like to clarify that we have received no direct French military support (in connection with the Qafsah affair). We asked the French Government for logistical material and the French Government agreed to give it to us. We have also asked the United States for military aid and the request has received a favorable reception. We do not plan guarantees from, or alliances with these powers. Unless extraordinary events occur, Tunisia's foreign policy will not change."

IDF CONDUCTS LIMITED OPERATION IN S. LEBANON

TA080527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 8 Feb 80 TA

[Text] A UN spokesman in Lebanon said last night that an Israeli force, numbering about 100 men, penetrated into southern Lebanon yesterday and combed the region between the border and the area under UNIFIL control. Concurrently, another small Israeli unit of seven men entered the area controlled by the Dutch UNIFIL unit. The UN spokesman said that the two Israeli penetrations were made in the wake of the incident in which a terrorist squad attempted to infiltrate into Israel. The spokesman said that the IDF units returned to Israel without creating any encounter or incident while they had been in southern Lebanon.

Our correspondent was told by Israeli sources that an IDF force had indeed entered southern Lebanon yesterday for a combing operation in wake of the clash with the terrorist gang the day before yesterday. All our men returned safely to their base.

The IDF spokesman said last night that the IDF views with grave concern the terrorist attempts to renew the penetrations from across the Lebanese border, after a long period of time in which the terrorists abstained from penetrations on land and simply attempted to infiltrate by sea.

JERUSALEM QUOTES MOSCOW RADIO ON PLANNED IDF ATTACKS

TA071942 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Moscow Radio reports this evening that the IDF is going to launch a pincer operation in the framework of which it will simultaneously attack the terrorist installations in Lebanon and Syria itself. Our correspondent, Mikha'el Gurdus, reports that the Moscow broadcast says that the offensive is intended to hit the opponents of the Camp David agreements and to increase the tension in the region. The IDF concentrations in the Metulla area have become the political frontline of Washington; Cairo and Tel Aviv, the Soviet commentator said.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON CURRENT REGIONAL, DOMESTIC CONCERNS

S. Lebanon, Foreign Portfolio

TA071416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Text] The prime minister said that if the Christians in Lebanon are attacked, Israeli would not remain idle. Mr Begin was speaking at a luncheon held by the association of foreign correspondents in Israel. He was asked whether Israel, which supports the Christians in southern Lebanon, would also aid the Christians in northern Lebanon if the civil war is resumed. He replied: If the Christian minority--in the south or in the north--is attacked, Israel will not be passive. He did not elaborate.

The prime minister emphasized again that Israel is following the movements of the Syrian Army in Lebanon. He claims that we do not know what these movements mean.

As for the statements made by the Egyptian deputy prime minister, Hasan at-Tuhami, against Israel, Mr Begin said that Israel would submit an official protest to Egypt. At-Tuhami's statements can hardly be understood, Begin said, for they totally contradict the nature of the relations slowly being shaped between Israel and Egypt.

With regard to filling the foreign portfolio, the prime minister said that this candidate for the job is Knesset Speaker Yitzhaq Shamir. There is a problem in the coalition which prevents his immediate appointment, the prime minister said, but he hopes the matter will be settled soon.

Remarks on Hebron, Kennedy

TA071512 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Regarding Hebron, Mr Begin said the Jews have a right to live anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el and the government will have to look into ways of maintaining order and security in Hebron. Mr Begin avoided saying whether he would recommend to the Cabinet settling Jews in deserted houses in Hebron. On Weizman's remarks about Kennedy, Mr Begin noted that the Israeli Government is not intervening nor will it intervene in U.S. domestic affairs. I can only say that Israel has always enjoyed the support of the two major U.S. parties.

Additional Details on Hebron

TA071555 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Excerpt] Regarding Hebron, the prime minister was asked: Is the Israeli Government going to adopt an iron-hand policy toward the Hebron Arabs? His answer: We do not want any bloodshed in our country.

[Begin Begin recording] We want Jews and Arabs to live together in Eretz Yisra'el in peace, in mutual human respect. Therefore, the problem is not one of an iron hand, but of establishing peace between us and our Arab neighbors. [end recording]

Will Jews be settled in the heart of the Arab Hebron? On this the prime minister gives no direct answer, saying:

[Begin Begin recording--in English] The government will consider measures to make sure that there is real security for the Jews in Judaea, Samaria, of course, it includes Hebron. [end recording]

AS-SADAT: AT-TUHAMI REMARKS 'PERSONAL,' NOT 'OFFICIAL'

TA080832 Jerusalem POST in English 8 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[By POST Mideast affairs editor Anan Safadi]

[Excerpts] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat yesterday dismissed the anti-Jewish statements made by Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan at-Tuhami as a personal expression which did not reflect Cairo's official concept. The Egyptian leader said that he did not agree with At-Tuhami's pronouncements. He made the remark to the editor of Cairo's OCTOBER magazine, Anis Mansur, who was contacted by the Jerusalem POST by phone. Mansur was asked for As-Sadat's reaction to Prime Minister Menahem Begin's announcement that Israel would lodge an official protest to Egypt against At-Tuhami's statements.

"At-Tuhami spoke for himself," said Mansur, who usually meets As-Sadat on Thursday for the political wrapup in his weekly magazine. "The position of official Egypt is clear and was made known to the entire world," he added in a return phone call to the POST.

Another presidential confidant, who asked that his name be withheld, said that Israel ought not to attribute much importance to At-Tuhami's anti-Israeli outburst, saying: "We certainly do not agree with him there."

When asked whether he expected As-Sadat to take any steps against At-Tuhami, the confidant said he didn't think so. "I don't know. It is true that he is a senior official. But don't you forget that he is also a deeply religious dignitary who voiced his controversial statements as such." Besides, he added, At-Tuhami made his statements in a Kuwaiti newspaper--not in Egypt.

The confidant added that he doubted whether As-Sadat would approach At-Tuhami, saying that Israeli dignitaries too make occasional statements which are detrimental to the spirit of peace between the two countries.

LONDON OR GENEVA, NOT PARIS, POSSIBLE VENUES FOR TALKS

TA080741 Jerusalem POST in English 8 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[Text] The Linowitz-Burg Khalil autonomy session scheduled for later this month will not be held in Paris--despite persistent press stories that it will. Israeli officials said yesterday that France had not been asked to host the talks, nor would it be asked. Likelier venues are London or Geneva, the officials said.

WEIZMAN INTERVIEWED ON POLITICAL, MILITARY ISSUES

TA081120 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Feb 80 pp 1,2 of weekend supplement TA

[Interview with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman by YEDI'OT AHARONOT military correspondent Eytan Haber--place, time not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Lately there have been unusual Syrian Army movements in Lebanon. Is Syria oriented toward war?

[Answer] It is impossible to answer this question with a 'yes' or 'no.' The State of Israel has no interest in getting into any conflict with Syria. The State of Israel has no war-like interest at all. I, at least, will make every effort and do everything I can to prevent a conflagration.

[Question] As defense minister you can also guarantee this....

[Weizman] We have instructed the IDF to be on guard, on the alert, and we are examining everything that is happening in the Syrian camp. However, I have given instructions to insure that no mistake of ours or a wrong move leads to a general conflagration. This is not simple. This does not mean that somebody cannot start creating a fire there tomorrow, that someone cannot start heating up the arena.

[Question] Who is this "somebody" and what is the "there?"

[Answer] It is my sincere hope that Syria realizes it is not reading us properly if it thinks we want to attack it. If I could seize this opportunity to transmit a message to Damascus, I would say the following: We have no desire to attack Syria, we have no plans to attack it. If everything happening in Syria today is a result of the Syrians' fear of us--let them calm down. I am afraid that, precisely as a result of what I have just said, the Syrians will come and say: That's it. This is the biggest Israeli fraud. Why is the Israeli defense minister saying this since he does not really think so? Let me reiterate: My dear sirs, the Syrians, I am both saying this and thinking this!

[Question] Still, what is your assessment regarding the possibility of an outbreak of war?

[Answer] Things have been happening over the last weeks. The deployment of forces in Lebanon has changed. Syrian alert has been increased. [paragraph continues]

I would be very surprised if Syria goes to war today when its relations with Iraq are as they are, when Jordan has no interest in war and when Egypt is in the midst of a peace process with Israel.

[Question] But what if Damascus nonetheless embarks on war?

[Answer] I am afraid this would be done under Soviet pressure intended to heat up this arena. Some believe that the Soviet Union needs this after getting involved in Afghanistan. I am not so sure about this. The Syrians also know that Israel is not Afghanistan. With all due honor to Afghanistan, of course, both the Syrians and the Russians know that we do not react the way others do. Therefore I hope they are reading us correctly. I repeat: A correct reading of the map reveals that Israel has no interest in getting entangled in any conflict today, but it may be that someone wants to harm this interest.

[Question] Is it thus possible to harm the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt?

[Answer] Yes, it is. We should therefore be on guard and not get dragged into any reaction to a provocation. Sure, if we are attacked--we will not be passive. It will not be worth it to meddle with us.

[Question] Is it possible to say that the eastern front is dying out due to the relations among the countries constituting it?

[Answer] How can you say this? It was only 3 months ago that the papers were full of descriptions regarding a rapproachement between Syria and Iraq. An Iraqi-Syrian axis was mentioned, and today you are asking me: Is this front dying out? Everyone in this coalition has his own contribution. It is true that Iraq has problems of its own and so does Syria, but I am never prepared to come and say 'never.' Jordan has a large number of tanks today but I am asking myself if King Husayn is interested in war today. In my opinion, Jordan should not be interested in war today.

[Question] But Jordan could open fire in order to get a political process moving.

[Answer] I hope that it will first try the political move. In any event, the potential of the eastern front always exists and one should remember this.

[Question] Are you worried about this front?

[Answer] Worried--No. It is not good to be worried but I am opening my eyes. I am troubled and I am thinking and considering things. We certainly follow events on this front very closely.

[Question] Is there a chance, in your opinion, that Jordan will join the negotiating table?

[Answer] It is a fact that Jordan has not yet reached this table. If it is true what they say in Israel, that the Camp David agreement is good for the Arabs--why has not even a single Arab country joined the agreement? This agreement also apparently contains things that are more positive for us and less for others.

[Question] What shall we receive? What will be purchased in the United States this year?

[Answer] The problem today is not what more we will receive from the United States. We can receive a lot. We can buy more F-15 planes, additional F-16 planes. The problem now is not the arms but the means to buy them.

[Question] You have visited the United States a few times recently. Do you feel a bad wind blowing from there in our direction?

[Answer] No. Those who constantly think and say "we are being tricked," "we are being put upon," "the carpet is being pulled out from under my feet," somewhere lack confidence and feel weak. I do not feel so. I have participated in the peace process with a feeling of power and strength. What do power and strength mean? I am not necessarily referring to the relative power of tanks and planes. I have not counted how many tanks Fahmi and Refa'el Eytan have. I went to the peace negotiations with a firm feeling that our way is right, that the Zionist movement is right, that our right here is not in doubt.

[Question] Let us go back to our relations with the United States...

[Answer] There were years when Israeli governments strongly desired and sought to reach a situation where the United States would give political backing to Israel. There were years when we depended only on France. And today? We will have the first squadron of F-16 planes in the world, outside the U.S. borders. One can either underrate this or appreciate it but it is impossible to have a certain partnership--and I am emphasizing 'certain'--with the United States and then to constantly look for points where it tricks us.

[Question] Is this only a partnership or is it more than this?

[Answer] A partnership and not an easy one. One had better not underrate it. All through the years we have looked for partnerships. The State of Israel was established with Soviet support, among other things, and I, personally, flew a Czech Messerschmidt in the Independence War. We then waited desperately for something from the United States. Al Schwimmer, who set up the aircraft industry, almost lost his U.S. citizenship when he assisted us by smuggling planes in from the United States. We sought a partnership with Britain and were unsuccessful. We had a partnership with France and were unsuccessful. We have finally reached a situation where we have a partnership with the United States. Some think this is no good? Let them find another way then!

[Question] The fact that the Americans chose Egypt as the country from which to receive military services--should this be viewed as a technical act or perhaps political?

[Answer] Both. It is both technical and political. It is difficult for me to understand that when someone offered, as it were, bases to the Americans in Israel, this was followed by a loud cry: Why are bases offered to the Americans? The Americans offered to obtain these services from Egypt and again a storm arose: Why only from Egypt? One should make up one's mind as to what one wants. I personally think that our partnership with the United States will continue to be strong and firm despite their receiving these services from Egypt. I am not in such a great hurry to give bases to the Americans in Israel.

[Question] Have you offered them this though?

[Answer] I have not. I told them: You have a friendly country in the Middle East. If you have a problem, consult with us. At any event, I do not feel neglected and wounded just because the Americans went to Egypt. This inferiority complex should be stopped.

[Question] Since we are dealing with the United States, let us turn to the relations of the superpowers. Does Israel have anything to fear following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan?

[Answer] In my opinion, absolutely yes. One should not make light of this. In the course of the peace negotiations with Egypt, I reiterated several times that we must view the peace issue not only from the aspect of the road leading from Jerusalem to Cairo. One should view the peace negotiations and the agreement in the global context. To our regret, a conflict exists between the United and the Soviet Union. Why do I say to our regret? The smaller the conflict gets, the greater the chance is that things will be better for us?

[Question] Is this why the detente exists?

[Answer] Ask me if I am in favor of detente and I will tell you I am. Ask me if one can rely on the Russians on this matter and I will tell you that, to my great regret, the answer is no. Does this sound contradictory? Yes, I am distinguishing between what is desired and what exists. In my opinion it is a mistake to think that Soviet Russia will be passive and let Egypt turn its back on it. In my opinion, it is also a mistake to think that the Soviet Union will not make use of the energy problems of the Western world. I had no doubt that the moment the United States managed to enlist China on its side to a certain degree, the Soviets would not be able to keep quiet since their soft southern belly has been touched. The question is whether the Americans will know how to make proper use of their friendship with China. I would not want to give advice on this issue. This is all I need. Our peace with Egypt transcends our small arena and also has international implications. I am a great believer in "you" [God]. "You have chosen us," and in "for out of Zion shall go forth the law." But I am also questioning "a people dwelling alone." We cannot be locked up in a fortress all our lives and for generations to come. If we want to live in an eternal country, a country with a future, a country in which we can build society and culture, we must find a way to live in this region.

[Question] But people do not want to accept us in this region.

[Answer] There certainly are countries like Morocco, Sudan, Jordan and Saudi Arabia whose interests are quite similar to ours.

[Question] You said that it is erroneous to think that the Soviet Union would sit idle after it had been pushed out by Egypt. On what do you base yourself?

[Answer] My estimation. In my opinion, the Soviets will not sit idle. Rather, they will make every effort to harm As-Sadat's status and harm Egypt. The entire area is currently in a volatile state. We should be very very concerned about the Soviets. Suppose the Soviets succeed in overturning the regime in Egypt.

[Question] We are in Egypt, so allow me to ask you: Would it be correct to say that you, 'Ezer Weizman, are more forgiving toward Egypt than toward Israel regarding everything pertaining to the two countries' bilateral relations?

[Answer] Not true. It is not a question of forgiveness. The two countries are pursuing a path they have chosen, precisely in accordance with the peace agreement. The Egyptians are faithful to their words, and so are we. I am not forgiving, but I would highly recommend that each party try to understand the other party as well, to know its problems, its personalities, traditions and future aspirations. In peace, just as in war, I try to enter the soul of my adversary. I attempt to enter his brain and his shoes. I try to live with the adversary and know what he thinks, how he feels, what his problems are. Ultimately, it is not only the written treaty that is the sole significant thing, but is the creation of an understanding that will result in securing peace.

[Question] Does this understanding also include expressions like the ones we heard this week from the Egyptian deputy prime minister, At-Tuhami?

[Answer] What At-Tuhami said is very serious. I am not justifying his statements; on the contrary. However, one must understand that Egypt has a very serious problem, and there certainly are certain circles in Egypt that oppose the peace agreement. But we in Israel only hear what they say about us in Egypt and do not listen to things said in the State of Israel. I repeat: At-Tuhami's statements are grave, but it is more important that the State of Israel be at one with itself and feel its strength and power. One can be protected by 2,000 Phantoms and 40,000 tanks and feel weak. Someone who is convinced of the righteousness of his path has his own strength. We moved toward an arrangement with Egypt out of faith in the justness of the course. We went in strength. But we also guarded our flanks to guarantee alternatives in the event something, God forbid, happens. I have the feeling that the Israelis go to the battlefield with much more confidence than they approach peace.

[Question] But one must be careful.

[Answer] Of course! Like you, I am aware of the possibilities that may suddenly emerge. I know that ups and downs may occur in the process. I know Egypt's aspirations are different from ours. But let us face this strongly, not like "nebbishes," feeling weak.

[Question] Which of the signs of normalization with Egypt would encourage you in the area of progress toward peace?

[Answer] Precisely those things that do not run through the official channels. I would be encouraged if I see Jews and Egyptians do things jointly. I would like to see the beautiful Israeli with the beautiful Egyptian, because I am worried about the ugly Israeli, lest he rip off the Egyptian tourists who will come to Tel Aviv, just as I am worried lest the ugly Egyptian would do the same in Cairo. What creates neighborly relations in agriculture, industry and tourism will contribute toward normalization. It is not what the foreign and defense ministries do, but what Goldstein and 'Ali, Muhammad and Mizrahi do.

[Question] You have recently been appointed to handle normalization with Egypt. Do you regard this as a temporary trust?

[Answer] Certainly. Those who say it is not entirely normal to operate this way are right. I hope we will soon embark on faster normalization routes with the help of joint foreign and defense ministry teams. I have been asked to take this job, and I did not say: 'This is not my job.' I accepted it, and I shall perform the job in the best possible way.

[Question] There have been claims that unrest and insecurity have prevailed in the occupied territories in the last year. Last week a Jewish youth was killed in Hebron. Some people hold that strongly against you.

[Answer] We have done and will continue to do everything possible to curb the development of terrorism in the territories. Among other things because it harms the peace process, which I am so eager to see succeed. It is true that criticism has been leveled at us regarding security in the territories, but it is a fact that even today one can drive there relatively quietly. The incident in Hebron was very regretful and should be regarded with severity, but I would not like it to be followed by a deterioration in the relations between Jew and Arabs, either in Hebron or in other places. After all, the two peoples were destined to live together.

[Question] Again, the defense establishment can be presented as forgiving....

[Answer] I suppose there will be those who will jump at the opportunity to present us as forgiving and lenient toward the Arabs. What can I do? I object to those who try to present the Arabs as people who get up in the morning and want to kill us all, and I am against those who try to present us as poor people. We are not poor people. On the other hand, neither am I incessantly checking to see if my back is straight. I get up in the morning and enjoy. I enjoy the fact that I live in Eretz Yisra'el, where I can take the car and go to the Jordan Valley, to Hebron. I do not wish to compare things to the past, but there were many times prior to the establishmentof the state, when it was impossible to travel there. Certainly there are problems, and they have to be solved. I hope Hebron was merely a sorry incident.

[Question] Former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan has repeatedly demanded that the military government be removed from the territories. Do you agree?

[Answer] This cannot be answered by a 'yes' or 'no.' Let us see how the autonomy negotiations develop. One thing is clear: It will not continue the way it is for long. A decision one way or the other will have to be made. Something has to happen. We may have to find a way to change the process. It is interesting to note that in the past on many things I have had views quite similar to Dayan's....

[Question] How do you make your personal decisions, for instance, regarding support for Carter against Kennedy?

[Answer] It would be interesting to interview once, not now, those around me. Hayim (Yisra'eli, the director of the defense minister's office), Yosef (Ma'ayan, the director general of the Defense Ministry), Ilan (Tehila, Weizman's military secretary) and hear from them how much we talked about the Carter business. We asked ourselves whether he is a positive or negative personality, and we discussed whether to say what I said in public or not. Arye (Shor, Weizman's aide de camp), who is sitting here next to us, will testify as to how many debates, arguments and conflicts I have had with myself and with others. In my job today nothing is personal: everything I say, everything I do, any decision for the better or for the worse is not personal. After all, I am the defense minister in the land of the Jews.

[Question] Do you listen to the advice of your aides?

[Answer] You should not think for even one moment that they encounter any difficulties trying to persuade me. God forbid. I know, at least, that even about decisions for which I had been criticized by the public there were serious consultations in the office. Sometimes I say and do things counter to advice I receive from others. I am not boasting about this, but one should know how to listen to advice as well, and at times not accept it.

[Question] Does this mean that what you said about President Carter and Senator Kennedy is not a chance statement, a slip of the tongue?

[Answer] Certainly not! First of all, with respect to Carter, let me emphasize that in everything I said about Senator Kennedy there was no intention of hurting him or his attitude toward Israel. But I found it necessary to praise President Carter for what he had done, and he did much. I think this affair is being overblown. In general, it is less of an issue abroad than it is here. Let it drop. I do not wish to deal with this matter any more.

[Question] Do you get advice from people outside the defense establishment as well?

[Answer] Do you want names? I have personal friends, some better, some not so good. They are neither public figures nor official functionaries, and I shall not mention names. But this is precisely what you want. You can write that I am not alone in my decisionmaking and you will be surprised by the number of people I consult.

[Question] Lately your name has been mentioned as the prime minister designate. 'Ezer Weizman, will you also be prepared to be the head of the opposition?

[Answer] My, what a question. The question is not whether I am prepared to be prime minister or not. The question is what my future political path will be.

[Question] And what will your future political path be?

[Answer] Let us see how things develop.

[Question] Including service in a Cabinet under Shim'on Peres, for example? You told him that "you will finalize things with him?"

[Answer] Shim'on and I are friends. We are in the political arena. We were together many years and we did many things together. It has been some time now that we have been in opposite camps. The future will show how one acts toward the other.

WEIZMAN SHELVES PROPOSAL TO RESHUFFLE MILITARY ADMINISTRATION

TA080954 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[By HA'ARETZ military correspondent]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman decided not to adopt the proposal for a reshuffle in the structure of the bureau of the coordinator of activities in the territories headed by Maj Gen Dani Mat. The activities coordinator will continue his duties as in the past, including the capacity of political adviser concerning the territories.

It was suggested in the past that the task of the activities coordinator in the territories be changed and that civilian duties, particularly political issues, be transferred from the coordinator to the national security adviser's office or to the Defense Ministry's director general. The suggestions were made during the affair of Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah. After the planning division of the general staff presented its recommendations to the chief of staff--stating that changes in the tasks of the coordinator cannot be effected without causing problems in coordination activities in the offices of the defense minister and of the chief of staff--Mr Weizman decided to shelve the initially proposed changes.

JEWISH RESIDENCE PROPOSAL FOR HEBRON DRAWS MIXED REACTION

NRP Supports Residency

TA071259 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Regarding the NRP's stance on the revival of Jewish residence in Hebron, Knesset member Hayim Druckman says his party and his party's Cabinet members support this revival. He told our correspondent, Amnon Nadav, that Minister Yosef Burg had assured him this morning that he had never objected to the resumption of Jewish residency in Hebron. Knesset member Druckman believes this will be a fitting answer to the murder of the yeshiva student.

Yadin, Weizman Oppose Settlement

TA070934 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Prof Yiga'el Yadin and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman are against the proposal to populate empty houses in Hebron with Jews.

At this week's Cabinet session the prime minister said that he was in favor of the proposal (although he was opposed to discussing it this week) and that the defense minister also supported it. Weizman did not react to these remarks, but government sources say that they know that he is against the proposal. Yadin, who was the first at the Cabinet session to call for the disassociation of the murder of the Hebron soldier with a decision about population, is also opposed to the proposal and will vote against it at next Sunday's Cabinet session.

As far as is known, Education Minister Zvulun Hammer also believes that the emphasis should be put on strengthening the Jewish settlement in Qiryat Arba' and not on infiltrating Jews into Arab population centers in Hebron.

Hebron Mayor's Remarks

TA071007 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[Text] Last night Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimi talked disparagingly about the remarks made in the Knesset by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman that Israel would see to security and order in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Al-Qawasimi said that security and order would not prevail as long as the Palestinian nation was not given the right to establish its own state under PLO leadership and that 13 years of conquest had proven the truth of this.

In an interview with the Arabic correspondent of Radio Monte Carlo, (Nawil Darwish), Al-Qawasimi said that the inhabitants of Hebron had been imprisoned in their homes for 24 hours a day, continuously for 8 days, and that he could find no reason for this collective punishment. In reply to a question, he said: "We are not accustomed to welcoming U.S. initiatives because the United States has been hostile to the Palestinian nation since the beginning of the problem." He commented that settling Jews in Hebron would be considered an act of aggression which would produce many problems.

He complained that no prayers had been allowed in the Makhpelah Cave on Friday and, in contrast to this, Jews had been permitted to enter the cave on Saturday, when some of them desecrated [sacred] objects, cut electricity cables and damaged the loudspeakers carrying the muezzin call and that this was the second time that such things had occurred since the conquest.

OPINION POLL REVEALS LESS CONFIDENCE IN U.S. AID

TA071012 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Feb 80 p 3 TA

[Pori public opinion poll: "The events of Iran and Afghanistan have caused appreciable damage to public confidence in U.S. aid to its friends"]

[Text] Events in Iran and Afghanistan have caused appreciable damage to the Israelis' confidence that the United States will be prepared to use its force to defend the security of its friends and allies in the world. This emerges from a Pori Institute nation-wide public opinion poll held at the request of HA'ARETZ.

Only 12.3 percent of all those questioned have any "great confidence" today that the United States would really use its power to defend the security of its allies; 33.2 percent have a "certain confidence"; 24.1 percent have only a "slight confidence" and 19.0 percent have no confidence in the United States at all.

The remaining 11.4 percent said they "did not know" whether it was or was not possible to rely on the United States in a state of emergency.

It should be pointed out that confidence in the United States has been less damaged in the lower socioeconomic strata. People with low educational levels, laborers and those people from Asian and African countries, have much greater confidence that the United States would really defend its allies in the world. However, it should be pointed out that there are also more people among these population strata who say they "do not know" whether it is or is not possible to rely on the United States.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 people who were interviewed personally in their homes throughout the country.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN OIL PROSPECTING--A foreign concern, the "Neptune" Company, has signed a contract with the Government of Israel regarding a concession to carry out oil prospecting throughout the country under preferred conditions--specifically, if oil is found, the company will receive 50 percent of the profit, with the other 50 percent going to the state treasury by means of taxes and royalties. It will also have precedence over any Israeli company--although not over foreign investors--in carrying out oil prospecting throughout the country. The director general of Hanah [Hipusey Neft-Hashqa'ot, or Israeli Oil Prospecting-Investment Company], who reported to the Knesset Energy Committee on the details of the contract, explained that the preferred status was granted to "Neptune" in return for a survey it had undertaken to carry out to determine Israel's oil potential in terms of the feasibility of prospecting." He further reported that "Neptune" will become a partner in the "Shizaf" field near Nahariyya and will receive 58 percent of the profit. [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Jan 80 pp 1, 15 TA]

COPPER MINES--The copper mine at Timna in southern Israel is to be reopened. This was decided today by the Ministerial Economic Committee. The mine was closed down 4 years ago due to heavy losses, but the world copper price is now over 1,000 pounds sterling per ton. It is calculated that Timna can break even at a selling price of 800 pounds per ton. It will cost $5 million to get the mine running again. Three hundred workers will be employed and the production target is 4,000 tons of ore per year; all of it for export. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Feb 80 TA]

COAL TO HADERA--The new power station at Hadera will be supplied with coal brought from Australia by two ships belonging to a U.S. shipping company. This was decided after nine international shipping lines, including Israel's Zim, submitted bids. About 700,000 tons of coal a year are expected to be shipped to the Hadera power station. [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Jan 80 p 6 TA]

AFGHANISTAN

BABRAK KARMAL RECEIVES INDIAN SPECIAL ENVOY

LD072118 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The information department of the Foreign Ministry has reported that Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], received for a courtesy call His Eminence Shilendra Kumar Singh, the special envoy of the Government of the Republic of India, at the Revolutionary Council headquarters at 1530 today. Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA foreign minister, and His Eminence Jaskaran Singh Teja, the Indian ambassador to Kabul, were also present. A discussion was held on matters of mutual interest to the two countries and on regional and world issues.

'ALI KESHTMAND LEAVES FOR USSR 'FOR TREATMENT'

LD071646 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, vice president of the Revolutionary Council, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, left this afternoon for the USSR for treatment.

At Kabul international airport, members of the Political Bureau of the PDPA Central Committee, members of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, cabinet members, party cadres and some high-ranking government officials were present to see Keshtmand off.

KABUL RADIO ATTACKS PAKISTANI PRESIDENT, BRZEZINSKI

GF071120 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Feb 80 GF

[Unattributed commentary: "Pakistan, the Arsenal, is Sitting on a Powderkeg"]

[Text] During the wars of liberation in the Indian Peninsula, all the masses of India, all nationalities, and followers of all sects and beliefs should have been united in the face of the British imperialist government to liberate their countries. There was a group that was busy sowing division between Muslims and Hindus. In the name of Islam this group used to obstruct India's just and honorable struggle. This group was able to prolong the liberation struggle and create problems for the future of the masses of the country and establish a political base [word indistinct] called Pakistan--Pakistan that was for some time a member of the imperialist pacts SEATO and CENTO, Pakistan that for some time served well as a U.S. military base.

The Pakistani masses have struggled constantly against these situations [words indistinct]. The drive for liberation resounded in that country's provinces. After a struggle a province called Bangladesh seceded from Pakistan. Bangladesh is now a member of the international community.

Calls for democracy and social justice continued to sweep Pakistan, bringing down governments and setting up others. Hidden imperialist hands always tried to stifle these democratic national and social upheavals with the force of arms. Consequently, military rulers were repeatedly imposed on this people.

President Gen Ziaul Haq is the latest link in this chain. The general is a master of guile and deception. He has impeded elections in Pakistan, banned the activities of political parties, closed down newspapers and muzzled the people. He is trying to drive a wedge between us and our brothers and is seeking to turn a misunderstanding into a fierce and dangerous enmity.

Political developments in Afghanistan do not suit people of his ilk. He fears nationalist, Islamic and progressive movements in Pakistan. Therefore, he is exploiting the historic political and social developments in Afghanistan for his own interest. He raised a hue and cry, claiming that Islam and Pakistan were in danger. Islam in Afghanistan is in no danger, and the people and government of Afghanistan take pride in Islam and want peace and understanding with Pakistan.

The military government of Pakistan is exploiting this situation and the past actions of some other states and their social and political stands to tighten its grip over Pakistan. In the past Haq mistreated the Pakistani people, and now he is seeking to arouse their religious beliefs against us. [Word indistinct] China, in the field of ideology, is persisting in its naughty policy. It has differences with the Soviet Union. The U.S. Government sees the ship of capitalism and imperialism about to sink and the edifice of peace and socialism rising. It is unable to compete with the Soviet Union economically and socially on the international level.

The Soviet Union has helped and continues to help Afghanistan in a spirit of good neighborliness. The military government of Pakistan fears developments in Afghanistan and is apprehensive that these developments will strengthen the Pakistani people's nationalist and progressive movements, (?putting an end to) oppression and eradicating imperialism in Pakistan. Therefore, Pakistan's military government is seeking aid from haughty China and U.S. imperialism to consolidate the pillars of oppression and tyranny in Pakistan and repulse the national democratic movement in Afghanistan. For the same purpose, PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua made a provocative visit to Pakistan. He saw Afghan fugitives in camps where Chinese and American instructors are [word indistinct] espionage and acts of sabotage against Afghanistan. He promised to give Pakistan Chinese arms.

Brzezinski, an adviser to the U.S. President, visited Pakistan and saw the camps and issued an order of aggression against Afghanistan. He promised Pakistan some $400 million worth of arms in immediate aid, as well as other assistance. He made provocative statements here and there and spread lies and accusations against Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

The transformation of Pakistan into an arsenal is not only dangerous for Afghanistan but also endangers the security of India, Bangladesh and other neighboring countries. Popular organizations in India as well as the Indian Government have expressed anxiety in this regard. This matter also constitutes a nationalist and national danger to Pakistan, because it creates in Pakistan nationalist and democratic movements and turns Pakistani territory into an imperialist base--territory that has become, as a result of the political situation, a powderkeg that could easily explode into smithereens.

The liberty-loving people of Pakistan, who valiantly freed themselves from British imperialism--and those who took part in the just struggle for freedom are still alive and struggling--will not allow their country to become a base for imperialism and an area for an unjust imperialist and reactionary war. They refuse to stand in the way of the progress and democratic freedoms of other countries, endanger peace and security of this part of the world, and obstruct the national democratic and social progress and political rights of other countries.

KABUL ON MARKET FIRE DAMAGE; CAUSE UNKNOWN

LD072136 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] It is now clear that as a result of the fire which broke out at the Jomhuriyat market on the night of 2 February, 115 shops with their goods were consumed by fire with losses worth approximately 8 million afghanis.

The police commander of Kabul Province said that at about 0300 on 3 February there was a huge conflagration at the Jomhuriyat market adjacent to the Foroshgah-e Bozorg-e Afghan which was brought under control by the Kabul police fire brigade and which was extinguished.

The Kabul police commander added that investigation into the cause of causes of the fire continues and that there are indications that the cause of the fire might be attributed to an electric (?heater) of heat from a stove. The result of this investigation will be announced later.

BBC REPORTS KARMAL EXPLANATION ON EVENTS PRIOR TO COUP

TA071551 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[From "Correspondents' reports"]

[Text] The exact sequence of events in the coup which brought Mr Babrak Karmal to power in Afghanistan has been the subject of much interest in the West. Now, more than a month later, Mr Karmal himself has given his version of the events in Kabul to an Indian newspaper. Mr Karmal told the paper that he had masterminded the coup against his predecessor--President Amin--who, he said, was seeking support from the Americans to consolidate his regime. Mark Tulley, in Delhi, reports:

[Begin recording] President Babrak Karmal claims that he reached Afghanistan secretly just after the assassination of the first communist President Nur Mohammad Taraki last September. He told the correspondents of the PATRIOT, a paper affiliated to the pro-Moscow wing of the Indian Communist Party, that he had organized what he describes as the kind of connections necessary for establishing the unity of the party. That would appear to mean that he organized the coup. At the time of the coup, however, it was reported that Mr Karmal was flown in with the Soviet troops who appear to have installed him in power. Against this Mr Karmal now claims that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan had elected him their leader before the coup and tried and sentenced his predecessor, Hafizollah Amin, to death. Mr Karmal also claims that it was his predecessor and the pressure from the party's Central Committee who invited Russia to send troops to Afghanistan.

In the interview, the new Afghan president also repeated earlier allegations that his predecessor intended to install what he describes as a CIA-dictated regime. He also intended to ask for American, Chinese and Pakistani troops, according to Mr Karmal.

Speaking of the present situation, the president said discussions on forming a broad national front were being held. He pointed out that there were now three non-party members in the government, three in the Revolutionary Council and one woman in the party's Central Committee.

The president denied that his government was going back on land reforms introduced to suppress communist coups and said Soviet troops would leave Afghanistan once what he described as the danger of external aggression was eliminated. The president introduced this as part of his attempt to improve his government's credibility and distance himself from the Soviet Union. [end recording]

REBEL LEADER NASRY HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN HAMBURG

LD072035 Hamburg DPA in German 1952 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Hamburg--The resistance fighters in Afghanistan allegedly control about 20 percent of the country. Rebel leader Zia Khan Nasry stated at a press conference in Hamburg today that the violent fighting with the Soviet occupation forces is continuing. Soviet losses have amounted to about 500 soldiers a week. In the town of Jadran, Paktia, in the mountainous south, a provisional government of the "Free Islamic Republic" has been formed. The Federal Republic and other countries have been asked to recognize this provisional government diplomatically.

Nasry called on the Federal Republic to support the Afghan insurgents directly and not to channel aid via third countries like Iran or Pakistan. "We need arms, food, medical supplies, radio equipment and other important goods," Nasry emphasized. Provided they received sufficient moral, political and military support, the Afghans can gradually force the Soviet occupiers to withdraw.

AFP NOTES DIFFICULTIES IN FORMING REBEL ALLIANCE

BK081000 Hong Kong AFP in English 0938 GMT 8 Feb 80 BK

[By Jean Francois le Mounier]

[Text] Peshawar, Northwest Pakistan, 8 Feb (AFP)--The heads of six Afghan rebel groups are meeting almost daily here in difficult negotiations to create a united front to counter the Soviet-backed Kabul regime, sources said. The rebel groups, who joined in the shaky Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan on Jan 27, are trying to draft a charter, select a president and establish a supreme council representing all the groups.

Observers expect that the traditionally rival groups will have some difficulty reaching an agreement. The possibility of a government in exile or in a rebel-controlled region remains controversial within the alliance, an informed source said.

Further, Pakistani authorities, who say they gave refuge to the rebel groups for humanitarian reasons, are totally opposed to the concept. A Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday said an Afghan government in exile could not be considered.

The Afghan groups are hoping to form their United Front and stabilize their alliance by March 1. Discord within the alliance emerged Wednesday as Burhanuddin Rabbani, temporary spokesman for the body, held his first press conference. He was immediately attacked by the Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan group, which said that Mr Rabbani was not authorized to speak for the alliance and could not claim the title of president before elections were held in the Supreme Council.

BANGLADESH

HOME MINISTER RETURNS FROM BURMA VISIT

BK080709 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 8 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The home minister, Mr Mustafizur Rahman, returned to Dacca yesterday from Rangoon at the end of his 5-day goodwill visit to Burma. Mr Mustafizur Rahman led a 5-member delegation to Burma at the invitation of his Burmese counterpart.

INDIA

FOREIGN SECRETARY SATHE RETURNS FROM PAKISTAN

BK071319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr R.D. Sathe, has described his talks in Islamabad as a friendly meeting of minds. He said the talks were held in a cordial atmosphere and were useful. The next round of official-level talks will be held in New Delhi in due course.

Mr Sathe returned to New Delhi this afternoon from Islamabad after a 3-day visit to Pakistan. The foreign secretary said there was a frank exchange of views on a number of subjects. We spoke on bilateral and international matters, particularly on the implications of the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

Replying to a question, Mr Sathe said India is not apprehensive of Pakistan being armed by the United States. We only say Pakistan should desist from arming itself, Mr Sathe added. Referring to closer economic cooperation between the two countries, he said the prospects are bright.

About his proposed tour of Katmandu in another few days, Mr Sathe said it is in keeping with the country's policy of developing friendly relations with her neighbors.

DELHI REPORTS ENVOY'S MEETING WITH KARMAL, DOST

BK080754 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The president and prime minister of Afghanistan, Mr Babrak Karmal, received the special envoy of the Indian Government, Mr S.K. Singh, in Kabul yesterday. At the meeting, which was also attended by the Afghan foreign minister, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, and the Indian ambassador in Kabul, Dr J.S. Teja, regional and international issues and matters of mutual interest were discussed.

The Afghan foreign minister had a preliminary meeting with Mr S.K. Singh on Wednesday [6 February]. This is part of the initiative taken by India to send special envoys to neighboring countries to defuse the situation in the region.

IRAQ TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL OIL, KEROSENE TO COUNTRY

BK071622 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Iraq will supply to India an additional 2 million tons of crude and 500,000 tons of kerosene this year. This was announced by the special envoy of the Iraqi president, Mr Hamid 'Alwan, at a press conference in New Delhi today.

Mr 'Alwan said he had already informed the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, about this during his meeting with her yesterday. He said Iraq had earlier agreed to supply to India 4 million tons of crude oil this year. With the additional 2 million tons, it will now be supplying 6 million tons.

Mr 'Alwan explained that although his country has many international obligations for the supply of crude, it had to respond to India's request because of the distinctive and good relations between the two countries.

Mr 'Alwan, who is now on a visit to India to congratulate Mrs Gandhi on behalf of his government, delivered to Mrs Gandhi a personal letter by the Iraqi president, Mr Saddam Husayn.

Mr 'Alwan said the Indo-Iraqi joint economic commission, which will be meeting in New Delhi next month, will discuss the details of the oil delivery schedule besides economic cooperation between the two countries.

Replying to a question, Mr 'Alwan said there is no need for convening a nonalined summit at present to deal with the situation in the Indian subcontinent arising out of the Soviet action in Afghanistan.

PRIME MINISTER SCORES OPPOSITION FOR POLICY OF CONFRONTATION

BK070920 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The prime minister has said the opposition is bent upon following the policy of confrontation despite her appeal for cooperation on all important issues. She said the opposition stand on atrocities at Narainpur village, which she described as unparallelled, is a glaring example of confrontation.

Mrs Gandhi was speaking to newsmen this morning at Lucknow airport where she made a brief stopover while on her way to Narainpur. Referring to a question about the dissolution of the state assemblies, the prime minister said she has not yet considered the matter. About the confrontation between the center and the UP [Uttar Pradesh] government, she said the chief minister should be asked about it.

Later talking to newsmen, the chief minister, Mr Banarasi Das, said he is not aware of any confrontation between the center and the state government.

Further Gandhi Comments

BK070922 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi has declared that the center will have to consider steps it should take if some governments, whether in Uttar Pradesh or elsewhere, place hurdles in the way of fulfilling promises given to the people. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a meeting of party workers at Rae Bareli today. Referring to the Chief Minister Mr Banarsi Das' objection to her visit to Narainpur, Mrs Gandhi said if someone does not have the capacity to fulfill its responsibilities, we will have to see what to do about it. If the chief minister considered that it was his responsibility, then why did he not go to Narainpur and see what happened there, she added. We did not prevent him from ascertaining who was responsible for the police excesses on the inhabitants of the village. She made it clear that officers, whether in police or other services, have to realize that this kind of behavior toward common people can not be tolerated in independent India. She said she is not concerned who was responsible. If someone loses his life or honor, it is the responsibility of all of us. Mrs Gandhi is going to Narainpur this afternoon.

COMMUNIST LEADER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH MARXIST PARTY

BK071321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The CPI [Communist Party of India] leader, Mr M.N. Govindan Nair, has said that the Communist Party and the Communist Party-Marxist are now closer to each other than ever before since the party's split 15 years ago. Speaking to newsmen in Trivandrum today, he said it is an event of great political importance that the two parties have fought the recent elections unitedly.

IMPORT PROGRAM FOR FINISHED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS ADOPTED

BK080354 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The union minister for works and housing, Mr P.C. Sethi, has said that he will announce in a couple of days a crash program for immediate import of finished petroleum products particularly diesel and kerosene to make up for the shortage in the country. He said the position of high-speed diesel and kerosene will improve considerably with the arrival of imported crude in 2 or 3 days.

Mr Sethi, who also holds the portfolio of petroleum and chemicals, was speaking to newsmen in Madras. He said he has convened a conference of chief ministers of nine states to discuss the problem of shortage of diesel. He said the center is launching a 5-year draft plan for housing and slum improvement for 1980-85.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI RADIO REPORTS U.S. AID TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK080248 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The United States is to give additional relief for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan including 40,000 blankets, 2,000 tents, 5 mobile medical units and 15 open surface (?water wells). This was stated at a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon by Ambassador Frank Loy after visiting the refugee camps in the NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] and Baluchistan to assess their immediate requirements. Mr Loy, who heads the American Department of State office for the refugee program, said 40,000 blankets would arrive in Pakistan tomorrow.

U.S. CONGRESSMEN QUOTED AFTER VISIT TO REFUGEE CAMP

BK071150 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The leader of the six-member U.S. congressional delegation, Mr David Ross Obey, has assured the Afghan refugees that on return to Washington they will convey their views and concern to their colleagues in the Congress. He was talking to the Afghan refugees at (Adahil) camp near Peshawar this afternoon. He said the United States is concerned about their fate both collectively and individually and American people admire their courage shown while fighting against the alien rule. He also said that a boycott of the Moscow Olympics would have a great impact on the Soviet Union.

Earlier, the leaders of the refugees made clear that they were fighting against the Soviet-backed regime in Afghanistan without any foreign assistance. It was totally false, they maintained, that China or the United States were providing them military assistance. They also said that they had come to Pakistan not to live here as refugees but wanted to go back to their motherland after its liberation from the outsiders.

Earlier, the U.S. delegation was briefed about the Afghan refugee problem at the governor house and the NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] governor, Lt Gen Fazle Haq, told the U.S. congressmen that Pakistan was providing help to the refugees purely on humanitarian grounds.

Hold Press Conference

BK080433 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] Mr David Ross Obey, the leader of the U.S. congressional delegation, has said it is necessary to see that the Soviet Union is not allowed to exploit weaknesses and threaten any country including Pakistan. He was addressing a news conference in Peshawar after visiting an Afghan refugee camp at (Adahil) today. He said it should be made clear to the Soviet Union that the independent nations of the world will not tolerate increasing Soviet intervention and activities to seize independent nations. He said the United States is aware of the danger facing Pakistan and in consultation with other countries, it is taking appropriate steps which will be effective. He said no one should have any doubt about the U.S. determination to safeguard the independence of this region.

About aid for Pakistan, he said other countries will also be included in this process. Replying to a question, Mr Obey said Americans are concerned about the possibility of [words indistinct] in this region of the world. When asked to compare the present U.S. attitude with that of 1965 and 1971, he said that this time the President and Congress are acting with a great degree of unity which was not present previously. He said he could say there is much support [?in Congress] for the U.S. administration in meeting its obligations to help the countries striving to counter Soviet intervention in this region. When asked what definite steps the United States will take for the Afghan refugees, Mr Obey said that has yet to be decided. However, the United States is fully aware of the problems of the Afghan refugees and they are very much concerned about their physical well being.

Replying to another question, Mr Obey said that in his opinion, cooperation between Pakistan and India can help to contain the situation created by the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The U.S. congressional delegation, prior to its departure for New Delhi, met the local councillors in Peshawar and exchanged views with them on matters of bilateral interest.

SPOKESMAN DENIES REPORTS OF 'AFGHAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE

BK071554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman has described as mischievous, incorrect and baseless reports carried by certain foreign radio stations and newspapers that attempts are being made to set up an Afghan government in exile in Pakistan.

The spokesman also described as incorrect and baseless reports that several U.S. Army combat groups had arrived in Pakistan following the recent visit of a Pakistani delegation in the United States and that Pakistan had expressed a willingness to the United States to provide army bases in Pakistan to counter the Soviet danger.

The spokesman also categorically refuted reports carried by Moscow Radio that Pakistani authorities are creating obstacles to the return of Afghan refugees to their homes.

The spokesman said that the incorrectness of this report can be seen from the fact that there has been a considerable increase in the number of Afghan refugees coming into Pakistan following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in December last year. The number of refugees has now crossed the 500,000 mark. The spokesman said that Pakistan still hopes that situation in Afghanistan will become conducive to the return of the Afghan refugees to their homes.

FRG PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION CALLS ON PRESIDENT HAQ

BK080250 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The visiting Federal German parliamentary delegation called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this afternoon.

Earlier the delegation, during its meeting with the secretary, States and Frontier Region [Ministry], was briefed on the influx of Afghan refugees and the efforts of the Pakistan Government to meet the challenge of this human tragedy. The delegation appreciated the efforts of the Pakistan Government in this connection and said the Federal German Government would continue to contribute in sharing Pakistan's responsibilities in this regard.

VISITING ROMANIAN MINISTER WELCOMED AT BANQUET

BK071145 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The federal minister for finance, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said that Pakistan and Romania shared common perceptions on major international issues and had cooperated closely in world forums on important matters. Speaking at a dinner last night given in honor of the members of the Romanian delegation, he referred to the recent developments in the region and said they tended to threaten peace and consequently the pursuit of peaceful economic and social development. He hoped that conditions would be created soon to enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homes.

Reciprocating, the Romanian minister for chemical industry, Mr Florescu, said that like Pakistan his country cherished principles of respect for the sovereignty of states and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other. He said it was heartening that economic cooperation between Pakistan and Romania witnessed big strides within the framework of joint governmental commissions.

SAUDI FUND TO PROVIDE LOANS FOR TWO GOVERNMENT PROJECTS

BK080251 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The Saudi fund for development is to extend to Pakistan a loan of $50 million for the Tarbela Dam repairs and modification project and another loan of about $15 million for the Port Qasim project. The agreements to this effect are likely to be finalized before the end of next month. The five-member appraisal mission of the fund has already completed negotiations in this connection.